



Derby City Council

## **TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE**

**19 February 2015**

Report of the Strategic Director of  
Neighbourhoods

# **ITEM 6**

### **Taxi Licensing Administration and Compliance Activities - Quarter 3 2014/15**

#### **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The report provides information on the activities the taxi licensing service has undertaken during quarter 3 of the 2014/15 financial year.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To note the contents of the report.

#### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 The information provided in this report is for member information only.

#### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The statistics for taxi licensing and associated licensing compliance activities for quarter three of 2014/15 are attached at Appendices 2, 3, 4 and 5.
- 4.2 The information contained at Appendix 2 sets out the number of requests for service received by the Licensing Team and the number of licences issued during the period.
- 4.3 The information contained at Appendix 3 sets out the vehicle compliance work carried out during the period. Using a risk-based approach, Licensing Enforcement Officers will often identify vehicles to inspect that appear to fall below the Council's standard for licensed vehicles. Therefore, it is important to recognize that these statistics do not indicate the general condition of all of the licensed fleet.
- 4.4 The information contained at Appendix 4 sets out the age of the vehicles that were inspected during the quarter.
- 4.5 The information contained at Appendix 5 sets out the knowledge test statistics for the quarter and other compliance / enforcement related exercises undertaken throughout the period.

<b>OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED</b>
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5.1 Not applicable.

**This report has been approved by the following officers:**

<b>Legal officer</b>	n/a
<b>Financial officer</b>	n/a
<b>Human Resources officer</b>	n/a
<b>Service Director(s)</b>	n/a
<b>Other(s)</b>	Michael Kay

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<b>Background papers:</b>	None
<b>List of Appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Licensing Statistics Appendix 3 – Vehicle Compliance Statistics

	Appendix 4 – Age Information of Vehicles Inspected Appendix 5 – Knowledge Test Statistics and Other Compliance/Enforcement Undertaken
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<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial and Value for Money**

1.1 None directly arising from this report.

**Legal**

2.1 None directly arising from this report.

**Personnel**

3.1 None directly arising from this report.

**IT**

4.1 None directly arising from this report.

**Equalities Impact**

5.1 None directly arising from this report.

**Health and Safety**

6.1 None directly arising from this report.

**Environmental Sustainability**

7.1 None directly arising from this report.

**Property and Asset Management**

8.1 None directly arising from this report.

**Risk Management**

9.1 None directly arising from this report.

## **Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 10.1 The proposals set out in this report will **deliver better outcomes for our communities, more efficient and effective services and improved value for money for our customers.**

## TAXI LICENSING QUARTERLY STATISTICS

	REQUESTS FOR SERVICE	LICENCES ISSUED				
		HACKNEY VEHICLES	HACKNEY DRIVERS	OPERATORS	PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES	PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS
<b>Q3</b>	69 (75)	60(102)	84 (89)	22 (16)	208 (221)	214 (214)

NO.s OF PEOPLE REQUESTING SERVICE	AVERAGE SERVICE TIME	AVERAGE WAITING TIME
1401 (1624)	9 (7) mins	10 (13) mins

( ) denote previous quarter

TOTAL NUMBER OF CURRENT LICENCES (as at 1 February 2015)	
Hackney Carriage Drivers	363 (379)
Hackney Carriage Vehicles	290 (299)
Private Hire Drivers	881 (883)
Private Hire Vehicles	811 (823)
Private Hire Operators	77 (72)

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( ) denotes previous quarter figures

## VEHICLE COMPLIANCE STATISTICS

VEHICLE INSPECTIONS						
Quarter	Type	Number Inspected	Satisfactory	Advisory Defects	Vehicle Referred for Inspection	Serious Defects (Suspension)
Q3	Hackney Carriages	39 (27)	7 (3)	25 (10)	7 (2)	22 (12)
Q3	Private Hire	45 (30)	13 (2)	25 (11)	7 (6)	15 (11)

VEHICLE SUSPENSIONS								
Quarter	Type	Number Suspended	Serious Defects Identified					
			Lights	Brakes	Steering	Tyres	Suspension	Other*
Q3	Hackney Carriages	22 (12)	4 (6)	4 (5)	5 (4)	3 (0)	6 (0)	18 (42)
Q3	Private Hire	15 (11)	1 (4)	4 (3)	8 (5)	4 (5)	1 (1)	11 (23)

( ) denotes previous quarter figures

\*Other refers to any defect outside the items listed in the “5 point safety check” (lights, brakes, tyres, steering & suspension) carried out by the testing stations during a spot check which can render a vehicle, if not always unsafe, certainly unfit for public service and/or in serious breach of licence conditions.

\*Other serious defects can include:

- Meter seals missing/damaged/tampered with
- Meter calibration incorrect/overcharging
- Door wind check straps weak operation
- Misaligned doors
- Water ingress into passenger/luggage compartment
- Unable to access engine/boot compartments
- Loose/deteriorated engine drive belts
- Battery insecure
- Illuminated warning lights on instrument panel
- Dirty interior/exterior
- Broken/insecure seat bases/back
- Worn/defective seat belts
- Radiator coolant leak(s)
- Engine oil leak
- Exhaust system blowing/leaking
- Engine fuel leak(s)
- Engine misfires
- Excessive smoke emission from exhaust
- Missing trim exposing sharp edges
- Grab handles insecure
- Excessive bodywork corrosion
- Transmission faults/leak(s)
- Defective windscreen wipers/washers
- Loose/missing bodywork



## Appendix 4

### AGE INFORMATION OF VEHICLES INSPECTED

Reg. No.	HACKNEY CARRIAGES				PRIVATE HIRE			
	Suspended	Referred	Advised	OK	Suspended	Referred	Advised	OK
N	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
P	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
R	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1
S	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
T	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
V	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	0
W	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
X	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
Y	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
51	3	0	3	2	0	1	1	1
02	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
52	0	0	0	1	3	1	2	1
03	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	0
53	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	2
04	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	1
54	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	2
05	1	2	1	0	1	0	1	1
55	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
06	4	0	2	0	0	1	2	1
56	1	1	1	0	1	0	2	0
07	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1
57	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0
08	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1
58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
59	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
61	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
63	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Appendix 5

### OTHER COMPLIANCE/ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

#### KNOWLEDGE TESTS

Qtr 3		Delegates Booked	Passed	Pass Rate of those Attending %	Failed to Attend
No. of Sessions Offered	12 (11)				
Hackney Carriage		4 (1)	2 (1)	66.6 (100)	1 (0)
Private Hire		87 ( 80)	19 (13)	22.9 (16.3)	4 (3)

#### LATE NIGHT TAXI ENFORCEMENT WORK

Vehicles moved off hackney ranks during late night enforcement

- Private cars - 2
- Private hire vehicles – 12

Private Hire Vehicles witnessed refusing approaches from the public during late night enforcement - 27

#### VEHICLE INSPECTION EXERCISES WITH DERBYSHIRE CONSTABULARY

During quarter three, 2 daytime exercises and 3 night-time exercises took place. A total of 49 vehicles were inspected and are included in the figures provided in Appendix 3.

Inspections consisted of 22 hackney vehicles and 27 were private hire vehicles. Police prohibition notices were served on 2 hackney vehicles and 8 private hire vehicles.

## **NATIONAL ANTI-TERRORISM CAMPAIGN**

A licensing officer worked with an officer from Derbyshire Constabulary's Anti-Terrorism Team to raise awareness with private hire firms. Operator bases with offices were visited during November to offer advice, posters and 'Hate Hurts' stickers as part of the national campaign. The information gave details of how an individual can contact the relevant agency, anonymously or otherwise, if they have concerns or information.

'Hate Hurts' stickers were also offered to hackney drivers during the Team's usual enforcement work, and are available, while stocks last, on the licensing booth at the Council House.

## **SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING**

Officers took part in the national campaign to raise awareness of child exploitation and child trafficking, and the different methods of grooming a child may be subject to. Visits to private hire operator bases were undertaken, including pubs, clubs and hotels.

Key officers participating in the campaign attended the national theatre play 'Chelsea's Choice' that was presented to local schoolchildren, before visiting the relevant premises together with staff from the Child Protection Team.

## **NVQ QUALIFICATION**

As of 26 January 2015:

	<b>Hackney Drivers</b>	<b>Private Hire Drivers</b>
Suspension served since 9 September 2014	11	48
Qualifications seen	9	41
Badges surrendered	1	4
Badges still suspended	1	3