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## **HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE – DRIVER AND VEHICLE LICENSING CONDITIONS**

### **1 SUMMARY**

#### **1.1 Members to consider the appended drafts of:-**

Hackney Carriage Pre-Licensing Standards  
Hackney Carriage Licensing Conditions  
Private Hire Pre-Licensing Standards  
Private Hire Licensing Conditions  
Driver Pre-Licensing Standards  
Driver Licensing Conditions

### **2 INTRODUCTION**

2.1 At the Sub-Committee meeting on 17 July 2002 Members indicated that it was their intention to review all of the standards and conditions associated with Driver and Vehicle Licensing and that they would be prepared to accept written submissions from all drivers and operators. Accordingly, all were contacted on 22 July 2002 and where written submissions have been received, they have been conveyed to Members of the Sub-Committee and those Members visiting or substituting on 17 July or 5 August.

### **3 MODEL CONDITIONS**

- 3.1 At their earlier meetings Members accepted that there are no model conditions but they had a range of documents from other Essex Licensing Authorities and found particular favour with those conditions currently used by Maldon and Uttlesford District Councils.
- 3.2 Members also indicated that it was their wish, in any review, not to limit the number of drivers or vehicles licensed by the Council provided always that on each occasion the driver or vehicle fully met the conditions. Nor was there a wish to limit the number of vehicles each proprietor could have licensed.
- 3.3 Members initially considered that vehicles should only be registered to persons holding a Drivers Licence and that Driver and Vehicle licenses could be issued simultaneously but have subsequently questioned their own logic behind this decision and are now considering whether non-drivers can be the proprietors of vehicles.

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**4 DRAFT CONDITIONS**

- 4.1 The Head of Service has produced draft documents for Members consideration which are appended to this report. He is recommending that if Members are minded to allow vehicle licenses to non-licensed drivers then they be subject to the same age criteria (21 years) and Criminal Record Bureau checks.
- 4.2 The conditions also reflect the Council's desire to see a significant number of wheelchair accessible taxis on the fleet and this could be achieved by stipulating that with any proprietor, every third vehicle held should fit this category. This would mean that third, sixth, ninth, twelfth (and so on) vehicles registered to one proprietor would need to accept wheelchairs.
- 4.3 There is still scope for Member review at this stage. Issues such as vehicle engine capacity and where drivers should live may need further consideration.

**5 CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 Members should now finalise their review of pre-licensing standards and conditions and make appropriate recommendations to Environmental Services Committee of 5 September 2002.

**6 RECOMMENDATION**

- 6.1 Members to make appropriate recommendations on pre-licensing standards and conditions to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee. (HRHM)

Steve Clarkson

Head of Revenue and Housing Management

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**Background Papers:**

Uttlesford and Maldon D C Conditions

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