

WIRRAL COUNCIL

LICENSING PANEL

14 FEBRUARY 2014

SUBJECT:	HACKNEY CARRIAGE PROPRIETOR LICENCE ALLOCATION POLICY – RANDOM SELECTION PROCESS
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is for Members to undertake the random selection process for the allocation of one available Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 At a meeting of the Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee on 23 January 2012 Members resolved to impose a limit of 289 on the number of Hackney Carriage Proprietor Licences issued.
- 2.2 Following a period of public consultation Members of the Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee resolved at their meeting on 25 September 2012 that a random selection process be approved for the allocation of available licences. The adopted procedure is attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.3 Members also resolved that the random selection process will be made using a computer programme at appropriate future meetings of the Licensing Panel.
- 2.4 In January 2013 the availability of four Hackney Carriage Proprietor Licences was advertised and letters sent to all Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers, vehicle proprietors and operators, as required in the adopted procedure. The closing date for applications was 6 February 2013. Sixteen applications were received.
- 2.5 In accordance with the procedure approved by the Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee random selection processes took place on 1 March 2013, 12 April 2013, 14 June 2013, 13 September 2013 and 15 November 2013 to allocate these licences.
- 2.6 The outcome of these processes is that one licence remains available.
- 2.7 A further Random Selection Process must now take place to choose one further applicant from the three remaining applications
- 2.8 Members are asked to run the computer programme which will randomly select one number between 1 and 3. The application that has been allocated the number

selected will be the successful application. Applicants have been advised that the random selection process will take place at the meeting and may attend. The applicant who is successful through this selection process will be contacted and will be required to present a vehicle which complies with the criteria for the granting of a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence, within 28 days.

- 2.9 If the applicant is unable to present a vehicle within the 28 days, a further random selection process will take place at a future Licensing Panel meeting for the remaining application. This process will be repeated until the licence has been issued.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 3.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 There is no provision for other options to be considered.

5.0 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 This is not a matter which requires consultation.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 6.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 7.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 A decision of this Panel can be subject to appeal.

9.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 Has the potential impact of the proposal been reviewed with regard to equality?
- 9.2 An EIA was completed in respect of the adoption of the random selection process.

10.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no specific carbon reduction implications arising from this report.

11.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no specific Community Safety implications arising out of this report.

12.0 RECOMMENDATION

12.1 That the Panel allocate the available Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor Licence using the random number generator computer programme.

13.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

13.1 It is a delegated function of this Panel to grant Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor Licences using the random selection process.

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REFERENCE MATERIAL

Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee Report and minutes dated 7 November 2012.

Licensing Panel reports and minutes dated 1 March 2013, 12 April 2013, 14 June 2013, 13 September 2013 and 15 November 2013.

Random Section Procedure for the Allocation of Hackney Carriage Proprietor Licences

- Hackney Carriage Proprietor Licence(s) become available
- The Council notifies the following in writing within one month of the licence becoming available:

Hackney Carriage Proprietor Licence Holders
Private Hire Vehicle Licence Holders
Hackney Carriage Driver Licence Holders
Private Hire Drivers Licence Holders
Private Hire Operators
- A Notice is placed on the Council Website and an advert is placed in a local newspaper within one month of the licence becoming available.
- The notice invites applications for Hackney Carriage Proprietor Licence(s) to be received within a closing date of 28 days from when the notice appears in the local newspaper.
- Applications received that meet the criteria for Licensing a Hackney Carriage Vehicle are included in the random selection to be made at a meeting of the Licensing Panel following the closing date for applications.
- The successful applicant(s) is informed and given 28 days to present a vehicle for licensing that meets the criteria for licensing a Hackney Carriage Vehicle at the time the application is made.
- **Outcome:**
 - 1) Vehicle licensed
 - 2) If no vehicle is presented within the prescribed time or the applicant does not want to progress the application a further selection will take place from the remaining applicants. This process will continue until the licence is issued.

Random Section Procedure for the Allocation of Hackney Carriage Proprietor Licences

