

WIRRAL COUNCIL

LICENSING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

19 NOVEMBER 2014

SUBJECT:	HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE PROPRIETOR LICENCE ALLOCATION POLICY
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT
RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR WJ DAVIES
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is for Members to consider an amendment to the Random Selection Procedure for the allocation of Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor Licences to enable licences to be allocated through one Random Selection Procedure.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 Following the decision of this Committee on 23 January 2012 to impose a limit on the number of Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor Licences a procedure for allocating new licences was adopted by Members on 25 September 2012. This procedure is attached to the report at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.2 Since the imposition of the limit, Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor Licences have become available on three separate occasions requiring the Random Selection Procedure to take place at the Licensing Panel in order to allocate the available licences.
- 2.3 The current procedure requires a successful applicant to be informed that they have been allocated a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor Licence and that they have 28 days in which to present a vehicle for licensing.
- 2.4 Should the applicant not be able to obtain a vehicle which meets the criteria for licensing a Hackney Carriage Vehicle another Random Selection Procedure from the remaining applicants must take place at the next Licensing Panel meeting.
- 2.5 The operation of the current Random Selection Procedure can be illustrated through the following example.

- 2.6 In January 2013 the availability of four Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor Licences was advertised and the Random Selection Procedure to allocate those licences took place at a meeting of the Licensing Panel on 1 March 2013. Due to successful applicants not being able to take up the licence allocated to them the Random Selection Procedure was repeated at six further Licensing Panels until all licences were allocated in April 2014.

3.0 PROPOSAL

- 3.1 Members are asked to consider an amendment to the Random Selection Procedure to enable Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor Licences to be allocated through one Random Selection Procedure.
- 3.2 It is proposed that, following the advertising of an available licence or licences, all applications received that meet the criteria for licensing a Hackney Carriage Vehicle will be numbered in accordance with the order in which they are received in the Licensing Office. These numbers will be input into the random selection process to generate the order in which a licence or licences can be offered to applicants.
- 3.3 Available licences will be allocated in order, starting with the first application on the generated list, and if a successful applicant is unable to present a vehicle within 28 days the licence will be offered to the next applicant on the generated list.
- 3.4 This would enable those licences available at that time to be allocated without the need to undertake a further random selection process at a future meeting of the Licensing Panel.
- 3.5 The proposed Random Selection Procedure is attached at **Appendix 2**.

4.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 4.1 There are none arising from this report.

5.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

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

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Consultation on the process to be adopted to allocate licences was undertaken in July and August 2012. The results of the consultation were reported to this Committee on 25 September 2012.

7.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS

- 7.1 There are none.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

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

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

9.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 A decision of this Committee is subject to Appeal.

11.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

11.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

No. An EIA has been completed in respect of the allocation procedure and was reported to this Committee on 25 September 2012.

12.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

13.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

13.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

14.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 That Members approve the proposal for amending the Random Selection Procedure and adopt the amended procedure set out in Appendix 2.

15.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

15.1 It is a delegated function of this Committee to allocate licences when they become available.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Current Random Selection Procedure

Appendix 2 Proposed Random Selection Procedure

BACKGROUND PAPERS/REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee	25 September 2012

BRIEFING NOTES HISTORY

Briefing Note	Date