

WIRRAL COUNCIL

LICENSING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

2 JUNE 2015

SUBJECT:	MEDICAL REQUIREMENT FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS
WARD AFFECTED:	ALL WARDS
REPORT OF:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION & ENVIRONMENT
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is for Members to consider an amendment to the implementation date of the Policy in respect of the medical requirement for Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers from 1 August 2015, to 1 October 2015.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 At their meeting on 25 March 2015 Members of this Committee resolved to adopt the following policy in respect of the medical requirements for Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers:

- Medical checks are undertaken by a General Practitioner in the medical practice to which the individual is registered on initial application and thereafter every three years with checks being undertaken annually from age 65.
- The standards applied to the medical examination required to be undertaken by Private Hire and Hackney Carriage drivers are the Group 2 medical standards applied by the DVLA .
- The implementation of the Policy to be effective from 1 August 2015 requiring each driver to present a satisfactory medical certificate for their first renewal from this date.

2.2 On 26 March 2015 the Deregulation Act 2015 received Royal Assent. This Act amends the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to require a local authority to issue Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver Licences for a period of three years, or such lesser period as the district council think appropriate in the circumstances of the case; instead of the current annual Licence.

2.3 This part of the Act comes into force on 1 October 2015 and the Local Authority will be required to issue Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver Licences for a period of three years from that date.

2.4 It is proposed that the implementation of the Policy in respect of the medical requirement for Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers is brought into line with the implementation date of three year Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver Licences on 1 October 2015.

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 Consultation has taken place over a six week period from 23 January 2015 until 6 March 2015.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

6.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

7.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS

7.1 There are none.

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

8.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 A decision of the Committee may be subject to legal challenge.

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

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

No.

11.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

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

12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are no Planning or Community Safety implications arising out of this report.

13.0 RECOMMENDATION/S

13.1 That Members approve a revised implementation date for the Policy in respect of the medical requirement for Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers of 1 October 2015.

14.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 To bring the implementation of the Policy in respect of the medical requirement for Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers in line with the requirement for three year Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver Licences from 1 October 2015.

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APPENDICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS/REFERENCE MATERIAL

BRIEFING NOTES HISTORY

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date