

LICENSING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**25 MAY 2016**

REPORT TITLE	APPLICATIONS TO RENEW PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER LICENCES
REPORT OF	ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Members to consider an amendment to the timeframe within which a completed Medical Assessment Report may be accepted as part of a valid application for a new Private Hire or Hackney Carriage Driver Licence or the renewal of that licence.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That Members approve the following amendment to the requirements for the grant and renewal of a Private Hire or Hackney Carriage Driver Licence:

- Satisfactory Medical Assessment Report must be presented to the Licensing Authority dated no more than two calendar months prior to the date a licence is granted or renewed.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 The number of appointments for medicals are restricted at a number of medical practices resulting in drivers having difficulty complying with the current requirement to produce a medical report dated no more than 28 days prior to the expiry of the licence.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

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

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 At a meeting of this Committee on 30 June 2015 Members resolved that to renew a Private Hire or Hackney Carriage Driver Licence that is due for renewal from 1 October 2015 the following are required:

- Satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate
- Satisfactory medical report in accordance with the Council's Policy for Medicals dated no more than 28 days prior to the expiry date of the licence
- Satisfactory driving record

- 3.2 The above requirements were implemented with effect from 1 October 2015 as part of the procedure to renew licences for a period of three years.

- 3.3 The availability of medical assessment appointments varies considerably between medical practices. In some cases a driver has to telephone his GP surgery in a morning to arrange a medical assessment appointment for later that day if one is available. This process can be repeated over a number of days or weeks which can result in an appointment not being made prior to the expiry date of the licence.

- 3.4 It is therefore proposed that the timeframe requirement for the Medical Assessment Report be amended to two calendar months to allow drivers a longer period of time in which to attend a medical appointment with their GP. It is further proposed that this requirement is also applied to the grant of new licences

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

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

7.0 RISKS

7.1 There are none arising from this report.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 This is not a matter that requires consultation.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

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APPENDICES

None

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee	30 June 2015