



Licensing Committee – 15 June 2016

Taxi Policy Consultation Review

Purpose of report

To update members on the consultation responses received following the 6 week consultation period for the proposed changes to the Taxi Licensing Policy documents.

Attachment(s)

Appendix 1: Consultation responses
 Appendix 2: Taxi Policy with track changes
 Appendices A – I: Associated appendices with track changes

1.0 Background

1.1 At the March 2016 Committee members discussed in detail the proposed taxi policy changes and agreed that the drafts, subject to the required changes being made, go to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval to go out for a 6 week consultation. Policy and Resources Committee approved the consultation period of 6 weeks (minute no: 407 refers) subject to further amendments to be completed in agreement with the Chair. The documents were made available on our website and the consultation period ended on the 13th May 2016.

2.0 Consultation Responses

2.1 As soon as the documents were released on our website for consultation a letter went to the trade advising them of the consultation, the deadline for responses and how to send those to the Council.

2.2 At the end of the consultation we had received 7 responses out of 155. The responses ranged from a couple of issues to a full in depth review of the policy with several pages of comments. Of those 7 responses 2 requested that the changes should be discussed at an open trade meeting. No other requests for a meeting were made. At the previous trade meeting, those who attended were advised that the policy consultation would be taking place in the coming months however these are always poorly attended.

2.3 At the same time all the documents were sent to our legal services for a full review to ensure that they were in line with legislation and guidance. The track changes in Appendix 2 and associated appendices contain the comments from legal services.

2.4 Appendix 1 provides a table of the consultation responses, detailing the section commented on, the response from the trade and our Council response as to whether changes are necessary or the reasons for no suggested change.

3.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

3.1 There are no equality and diversity implications as a result of this paper.

4.0 Legal Implications

4.1 To ensure that the finalised documents remain in line with the legislative framework any suggested changes agreed by this committee will be discussed with legal services in generating the final version.

5.0 Resource and Financial Implications

5.1 There are no resource or financial implications as a result of this paper.

6.0 Customer Services Implications

6.1 There are no customer services implications as a result of this paper

7.0 Corporate Outcomes

7.1 The Corporate Outcomes affected by this policy review are:

- Good Quality of Life – Safer Communities
- Effective Management
- High Quality Service Delivery

8.0 Recommendation

8.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- (1) Consider the consultation responses and determine any appropriate amendments.

(Reason – To ensure that the council complies with its legal and public safety obligations in respect to taxi licensing)

Legal	Power: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976				
	Other considerations:				
Background Papers: Department of Transport, Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing : Best Practice Guidance					
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Date: 25/05/2016					
CFO		DMO		CX	