

Subject:	Amendment to Policy for the licensing of: hackney carriage drivers and vehicles, private hire operators, drivers and vehicles	Status:	For Publication
Report to:	Licensing Committee	Date:	28 th February 2012
Report of:	Director of Business	Portfolio Holder:	Environmental Services
Key Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	General Exception	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
Community Impact Assessment:	Required: No	Attached:	No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Required: No	Attached:	No
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1.	RECOMMENDATION(S)
1.1	It is recommended that elected members determine to amend condition 1.1.4 at Appendix A of the Policy for the licensing of: hackney carriage drivers and vehicles, private hire operators, drivers and vehicles to “No markings of any nature, other than standard manufacturer’s markings, are permitted, except in accordance with the criteria set out below”. “The Director for Business, Monitoring Officer or Unit Manager may instruct the vehicle owner to remove any markings deemed inappropriate and/or offensive”.
1.2	It is recommended that elected members determine to amend condition 1 d) at Appendix D of the Policy for the licensing of: hackney carriage drivers and vehicles, private hire operators, drivers and vehicles to “No markings of any nature, other than standard manufacturer’s markings, are permitted, except in accordance with the criteria set out below”. “The Director for Business, Monitoring Officer or Unit Manager may instruct the vehicle owner to remove any markings deemed inappropriate and/or offensive”.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To request the Licensing Committee amend condition 1.1.4 at Appendix A of the Policy for the licensing of: hackney carriage drivers and vehicles, private hire operators, drivers and vehicles.
- To request the Licensing Committee amend condition 1 d) at Appendix D of the Policy for the licensing of: hackney carriage drivers and vehicles, private hire operators, drivers and vehicles.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:
- **A clean and green Rossendale** – creating a better environment for all.
 - **A healthy and successful Rossendale** – supporting vibrant communities and a strong economy.
 - **Responsive and value for money local services** – responding to and meeting the different needs of customers and improving the cost effectiveness of services.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 All the issues raised and the recommendation(s) in this report involve risk considerations as set out below:
- There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

- 5.1 On 23rd February 2011, the Council resolved to adopt the policy for the licensing of hackney carriage drivers and vehicles and private hire operators, drivers and vehicles.
- 5.2 At the same meeting, the Council resolved to delegate any future changes to the policy for the licensing of hackney carriage drivers and vehicles and private hire operators, drivers and vehicles to the Licensing Committee.
- 5.3 Within the Policy are hackney carriage and private hire vehicle licence conditions and currently the Policy states at condition 1.1.4 at Appendix A and condition 1 d) at Appendix D in relation to signs, notices etc.:

“No markings of any nature, other than standard manufacturer’s markings, are permitted, except upon the written authorisation of the Director for Business, Monitoring Officer or Unit Manager and in accordance with the criteria set out below”:

Permitted Markings:

Only the company/organisation name and one contact telephone number may be displayed.

Permitted Location and size of markings:

Rear passenger doors (total area for markings may not exceed 20.5cm by 32cm in size) on each door and/or the rear boot lid

Permitted Typeface and colour

Any typeface is permitted provided that the total area of each marking does not exceed the limits above. Markings must be in contrast to the main colour of the vehicle. Applications for this purpose must be made in writing to the Unit Manager and be accompanied by a sample of the proposed markings. Submissions must be in colour and full details of the signage must be provided to demonstrate how it complies with the Council’s requirements. No additional markings will be permitted.

- 5.4 As you can see from paragraph 5.3 above, the Policy clearly states what is permissible, it is therefore proposed to amend the Policy at condition 1.1.4 at Appendix A and condition 1 d) at Appendix D in relation to signs, notices etc. To:

“No markings of any nature, other than standard manufacturer’s markings, are permitted, except in accordance with the criteria set out below”. “The Director for Business, Monitoring Officer or Unit Manager may instruct the vehicle owner to remove any markings deemed inappropriate and/or offensive”.

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

6. SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 6.1 There are no specific financial implications

7. MONITORING OFFICER

- 7.1 The Council must make a decision based on all relevant information and following

consideration of all relevant Council policies.

8. HEAD OF PEOPLE AND POLICY (ON BEHALF OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)

8.1 There are no specific human resources implications.

9. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

9.1 Taxi Liaison Group

10. CONCLUSION

10.1 It is recommended that members agree to this change which would reduce a burden of the taxi trade without affecting our standards.

Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection
Policy for the licensing of: hackney carriage drivers and vehicles, private hire operators, drivers and vehicles.	<i>Public Protection Unit</i>

There is no background papers (*delete where applicable*)