

Subject:	Proposed amendments to the Policy for the licensing of: hackney carriage drivers and vehicles, private hire operators, drivers and vehicles	Status:	For Publication
Report to:	Licensing Committee	Date:	Tuesday 4 th December 2012
Report of:	Director of Business	Portfolio Holder:	Customers, Legal and Licensing
Key Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	General Exception <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
Equality Impact Assessment:	Required:	Yes	Attached: No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Required:	No	Attached: No
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1.	RECOMMENDATION(S)
1.1	<p>That members of the Licensing Committee determine to amend the Policy for the licensing of: hackney carriage drivers and vehicles, private hire operators, drivers and vehicles as follows:</p> <p><u>2.10 Driving Standards Agency (DSA) Tests</u></p> <p>As part of an application for a hackney carriage or private hire drivers licence the applicant will be required to pass a DSA Private Hire/ Hackney Carriage Assessment Test and submit evidence of that pass with their application. The test must have been passed within the six-month period preceding the application for the licence.</p> <p><i>If a licensee accumulates 9 or more points, within a 36 month period they shall be called in front of the council's licensing committee (although previously accumulated points will still be relevant for consideration by the licensing committee) the licensing committee has the option of:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>requiring the licensee to take the DSA test and pass it within 3 months of being notified of the requirement and report the results of the test to the council within 1 months of the test being taken; and or</i> 2. <i>suspend the licensee until a DSA test is taken and passed; and or</i> 3. <i>revoke the licence; or</i> 4. <i>take no further action</i>
1.2	<p>That members of the Licensing Committee determine to amend the Policy for the licensing of: hackney carriage drivers and vehicles, private hire operators, drivers and vehicles in relation to certificates of insurance as follows:</p> <p><u>4.3 Applications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an original certificate of insurance for the vehicle, valid on the day of application, insuring it for the purpose of its use as a hackney carriage vehicle; <i>certificates of insurance emailed direct from the insurance company will be accepted.</i> <p><u>7.1 Applications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an original certificate of insurance for the vehicle, valid on the day of application, insuring it for the purpose of its use as a Private Hire vehicle; <i>certificates of insurance emailed direct from the insurance company will be accepted.</i>

**Appendix A
Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence Conditions**

12 Insurance

12.1 The proprietor of any hackney carriage licensed by the Council shall at the request of any authorised officer of the Council produce for inspection the vehicle licence for such hackney carriage and the certificate of the policy of insurance or security required by Section 143(2) Road Traffic Act 1988; *certificates of insurance emailed direct from the insurance company will be accepted.*

**Appendix D
Private Hire Vehicle Licence Conditions**

11 Insurance

11.1 The proprietor of any private hire vehicle licensed by the Council shall at the request of any authorised officer of the Council produce for inspection the vehicle licence for such private hire vehicle and the certificate of policy of insurance or security required by Section 143(2) Road Traffic Act 1988; *certificates of insurance emailed direct from the insurance company will be accepted.*

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 That members of the Licensing Committee determine to amend 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 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

5.1 On 23rd February 2011 members of this Council resolved:

1. That Council adopts the policy for the licensing of hackney carriage drivers and vehicles and private hire operators, drivers and vehicles and the Rossendale Test proposals.
2. That Council delegate any future changes to the policy for the licensing of hackney carriage drivers and vehicles and private hire operators, drivers and vehicles and the Rossendale Test to the Licensing Committee.

5.2 Following consultation through the taxi liaison group on 31st October 2012 it was agreed to bring the proposals at 1.1 of this report to the next meeting of the Licensing Committee.

5.3 There is a further proposal at 1.2 of this report which is being brought before this committee to assist in the continued administration of vehicle licences whilst reducing the footfall into the Council offices resulting from temporary certificate of insurance cover notes.

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. An Equality assessment has been undertaken and there is no impact on any residents arising from the proposals.

9. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

9.1 Taxi Liaison Group and administration officers of the Licensing and Enforcement Unit in conjunction with the Director for Business.

10. CONCLUSION

10.1 To consider the report and make the appropriate determination.

Background Papers

Document	Place of Inspection
Policy for the licensing of: hackney carriage drivers and vehicles, private hire operators, drivers and vehicles.	Licensing and Enforcement Unit.
Equality Impact Assessment.	Licensing and Enforcement Unit.