

## Report of the Chief Executive

**REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY**1. Purpose of report

To consider proposals to revise the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy following publication of the Department for Transport (DfT) Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards.

2. Detail

Members will recall that the result of the Government's response to the report of the Taxi and Private Hire-Task and Finish Group was reported to the Committee in March 2019. This advised that the Government agreed that there should be national minimum standards for taxi and Private Hire Vehicle (PHV) licensing, and will take forward legislation when time allows to enable these. The Policing and Crime Act 2017 enabled the Secretary of State for Transport to issue statutory guidance on exercising the licensing function to protect children and vulnerable individuals from harm when using these services. The Guidance will benefit all service users

On 21 July 2020 the DfT published Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards and the introduction states "The Department therefore expects these recommendations to be implemented unless there is a compelling reason not to".

The Licensing Manager has been in consultation with officers from other Licensing Authorities across the County. It should be noted that many of the DfT recommendations are within the current policy at Broxtowe and have been for some time.

However, the document requires the Council to review and adopt a number of recommendations and the proposed amendments to the current policy are outlined in appendix 1. A copy of the Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards is attached at appendix 2. An Equality Impact Assessment is attached as appendix 3.

The Government also recommended that Councils consult on any proposed changes. It is therefore proposed to carry out a four week long consultation commencing 18 December 2020, with the results brought back to this Committee.

**Recommendation**

**The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the proposed amendments be APPROVED for consultation.**

Background papers

Nil