

Report to:	PUBLIC PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Mark Marshall, Head of Licensing Service
Date of Meeting	7 November 2017

REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS' POLICY

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider proposed amendments to the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Criminal Convictions Policy.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To consider the policy and the proposed amendments as outlined in Appendix 4(a).
- 2.2 To authorise a period of consultation with the trade on the proposed amendments.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1a The policy has been in force for two years and it is considered that a review was appropriate.

- 3.1b It is regarded as good practice to hold a consultation period to collate the views of the trade prior to making a formal decision to amend a policy.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

The Sub-Committee could decide to not review the policy after two years. However, this would not be considered good practice.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is "The Economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy has been in force in its current form since 2015.

5.2 Over time officers have noted a number of omissions, anomalies and areas where the criminal convictions section of the policy could be strengthened.

5.3 Proposed amendments to the Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing Criminal Convictions' Policy can be found at Appendix 4(a). The amendments will be subject to the outcome of a period of consultation to address any concerns interested parties may have.

5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.5 List of Appendices:

Appendix 4(a) Amended Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing Criminal Convictions' Policy.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 Any amendments to the policy would require a period of consultation.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None