

Report to:	PUBLIC PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Mark Marshall, Head of Licensing Service
Date of Meeting	16 January 2018

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 5(a).
- 2.2 To recommend to the Executive that they adopt the proposed amendments.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1a The Sub-Committee has previously authorised a period of consultation on the proposed changes. All of responses received were supportive of the amendments

- 3.1b Any amendments to the Policy must be approved by the Executive

- 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 noted a number of omissions, anomalies and areas where the criminal convictions section of the policy could be strengthened.

5.3 The Sub-Committee considered proposed amendments to the convictions policy at its meeting on 7 November 2017, made some changes and authorised a period of consultation with the trade. The consultation document is at Appendix 5(a)

5.4 Consultation took place until 3 January 2018. Two responses were received both supporting the changes. The responses are at Appendix 5(b)

5.5 Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.6 List of Appendices:

Appendix 5(a) Proposed Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing Criminal Convictions' Policy.

Appendix 5(b) Consultation responses.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

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