

8 July 2014		ITEM: 5
Licensing Committee		
Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Specification and Licence Condition Amendment		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Non Key	
Report of: Paul Adams – Principal Licensing Officer		
Accountable Head of Service: Lucy Magill – Head of Public Protection		
Accountable Director: Graham Farrant, Chief Executive		
This report is: Public		

Executive Summary

Correction of a typographical error to Thurrock Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle specifications and Licence Conditions.

1. Recommendation(s)

- 1.1 Agree the change to the vehicle specification and licence conditions for Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicles as set out in appendix A, referring to Full Council for adoption.**

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 Local Authorities have the power to set conditions and policy in relation to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licences.
- 2.2 The current Vehicle Specification and Licence Conditions sets out the type of vehicles that are considered suitable for licensing and the conditions that they must adhere to once the licence has been granted.
- 2.3 This Policy was amended and agreed at Full Council on the 23 October 2013

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

- 3.1 Since publication a typographical error has been discovered Paragraph 2.2 of Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence – Pre Licensing Standards which currently reads: “Permit loading of wheelchairs ONLY through the side door(s) of the vehicle. Vehicles that load wheelchairs through the tailgate will not be accepted for licensing. Those Hackney Carriage proprietors whose vehicles

are **side** loading on 1 August 2013 shall replace their vehicle with a vehicle that is **rear** loading, if the vehicle is changed or when the licence is renewed after the vehicle reaches 10 years of age.”

- 3.2 This paragraph has been amended to read: “Permit loading of wheelchairs ONLY through the side door(s) of the vehicle. Vehicles that load wheelchairs through the tailgate will not be accepted for licensing. Those Hackney Carriage proprietors whose vehicles are **rear** loading on 1 February 2014 shall replace their vehicle with a vehicle that is **side** loading, if the vehicle is changed or when the licence is renewed after the vehicle reaches 10 years of age. The amended Policy is attached as **Appendix A.**”

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 The error must be amended to allow for wheel chair accessible vehicles to be replaced during their life. The adoption of policy is a full council function.

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 5.1 No consultation has been undertaken as this is just an amendment to rectify a typographical error.

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

- 6.1 This will ensure that this policy remains fit for purpose.

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Mike Jones**
Management Accountant

There are no financial implications for this report

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Chris Pickering**
Principal Solicitor - Litigation & Employment

Any amendments to the policy must be adopted at full council

- 7.3 Implications verified by: **Rebecca Price**
Community Development Officer
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The correction of this typographical error will ensure that Wheelchair Accessible Hackney Carriages can be replaced with similar vehicles ensuring access to wheelchair users.

7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

None

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

None

9. **Appendices to the report**

- Appendix A – Amended Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Specification and Licence Conditions.

Report Author:

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