

Approval of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy and Handbook Draft Document dated January 2021 and implementation from 1 April 2021.

Summary:	<p>This report follows the production of the final draft of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy and Handbook. The document should be approved as a framework for the Council and its stakeholders. The handbook has been subject to consultation period in 2020 and a Licensing and Appeals Committee Hearing. Recommendations from this Committee was to hold further discussions by a working group of Elected Members from Licensing Committee, Taxi Trade representatives in North Norfolk and Licensing Officers from NNDC.</p> <p>Agreement has been achieved by the working group to produce this document for submission at Full Council for approval and then to implement from 1 April 2021. This following the recommendation by Licensing and Appeals Committee on 23 November 2020.</p>
Options considered:	<p>To approve the document which has been subject to a detailed consultation and review process involved the various stakeholders to produce a document that will maintain standards in the taxi trade and protect the travelling public using these services.</p>
Conclusions:	<p>To approve and adopt implementation of the policy and handbook from 1st April 2021</p>
Recommendations:	To approve the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy and Handbook, with implementation from 1st April 2021
Reasons for Recommendations:	<p>This is to provide a policy and handbook as a reference to the various stakeholders on taxi licensing and how it will be administered and operated within North Norfolk's District.</p>

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS AS REQUIRED BY LAW

(Papers relied on to write the report, which do not contain exempt information and which are not published elsewhere)

<p>Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing and Appeals Committee held on Monday, 23 November 2020 at the remotely via Zoom at 10.00 am Licensing & Appeals Committee Report and Appendices: 23 November 2020 North Norfolk District Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy and Handbook Draft January 2021</p>
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Cabinet Member(s)	Ward(s) affected - ALL
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Since the Licensing & Appeals Committee held on 23 November 2020, a task and finish group have met and discussed North Norfolk District Councils Draft Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy and Handbook. This handbook has been updated followed detailed discussions, consultation with the taxi trade and agreed at this working group. A number of meetings were held over zoom from December 2020 to January 2021 and the outcome of this process has produced a document that maintains ownership and approach by all stakeholders.

2. Main body of report

- 2.1 The final draft of the handbook and policy has been produced and by the input of dedicated group of stake holders including representation from the North Norfolk Taxi Private Hire Association (NNTPHA) in North Norfolk and independent taxi businesses. The discussions have been detailed and a robust draft policy and handbook has been produced. This ownership of approach will ensure that the policy and handbook takes into account the opinions and views of all parties and working with business to achieve our purpose of providing a safe licensing for hackney carriage and private hire drivers, vehicles and operators in North Norfolk.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The draft NNDC Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy and Handbook 2021 be approved and implemented from 1st April 2021.

4. Implications and Risks

- 4.1 The adoption of the updated policy and handbook would help ensure that we are maintaining to high standards the vehicles that are licensed to operate in North Norfolk. It would also ensure that we are maintaining our statutory requirement for protection of the public and upholding and implementing the DfT statutory guidance as issued in July 2020. Without implementing these policies and guidance there would be a potential risk to public safety.

5. Financial Implications and Risks – N/A

6. Sustainability – N/A

7. Equality and Diversity – N/A

8. Section 17 Crime and Disorder considerations – N/A