

# Licensing Sub-Committee of the Regulatory Committee

9.30am, Tuesday, 24 November 2020

## Applications for Renewal of Taxi or Private Hire Driver's Licences – Use of Delegated Powers

### Executive/routine

Wards

All

Council Commitments

N/A

### Executive Summary

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Applications for the renewal of Taxi or Private Hire Driver's Licences have been received by the Licensing Service. The applicants have been unable to provide a criminal convictions certificate.

These applications would normally be referred to the committee to determine whether the applications should be treated as an exemption to policy.

The Executive Director of Place intends to deal with these applications under delegated powers and seeks agreement of committee to do so.

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## Applications for Renewal of Taxi or Private Hire Driver's Licences – Use of Delegated Powers

### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 It is recommended that the committee agrees that the Executive Director of Place deal with these applications under delegated powers.

### 2. Background

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- 2.1 On 6 February 2018 the Regulatory Committee decided that it would amend existing policy to allow existing taxi and PHC drivers who were unable to obtain the relevant criminal convictions check to apply for a licence renewal.
- 2.2 These applications would be referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee to determine if the applicant should be exempt from the requirement to produce the requested criminal convictions certificate.

### 3. Main report

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- 3.1 Applications for the renewal of Private Hire Driver's Licences have been received by the Licensing Service (Appendix 1).
- 3.2 The Licensing Sub-Committee's normal schedule of meetings has been affected by the public health measures necessary to contain COVID-19. There remains a backlog of application which await a committee hearing. In order to deal with these applications promptly and to reduce the number of applications, it is suggested that these should be determined by the Executive Director of Place under delegated powers. In each case the driver has been resident in the UK for an extended period and there are no previous concerns about their conduct.

### 4. Measures of success

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- 4.1 Not relevant, as decisions on individual licences have to be considered on their own merits.

## **5. Financial impact**

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- 5.1 None, as the costs of these matters are recovered through taxi and private hire car vehicle and driver licence application fees.

## **6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 The licence holder has a right of appeal against any decision made. The appeal lies to the Sheriff Court.

## **7. Equalities impact**

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- 7.1 There is no equalities impact arising from the contents of this report, as decisions on individual licences have to be considered on their own merits.

## **8. Sustainability impact**

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- 8.1 There is no environmental impact arising from the contents of this report.

## **9. Consultation and engagement**

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- 9.1 None.

## **10. Background reading/external references**

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- 10.1 [Production of Criminal Records and Evidence of Right to Work in the UK by Taxi and Private Hire Driver's Licence Applicants](#) to Regulatory Committee on 16 September 2016.

## **11. Appendices**

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- 11.1 Appendix 1 – Applications received