

21 March 2018

Report of	Assistant Director (Environment)	Author	Jon Ruder ☎ 282840
Title	Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy		
Wards affected	All		

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Committee is asked to consider further changes to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy following a further period of consultation.

2. Recommended Decision

- 2.1 To consider and approve the proposed amendments to the Policy.

3. Reason for Recommended Decision

- 3.1 Further changes have been made to the Policy as a result of the public consultation.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 To leave the policy unchanged but this would leave it unfit for purpose.

5. Background Information

- 5.1 On 17 January 2018 the Committee considered the outcome of a consultation exercise, in the form of a table of responses and proposed amendments to the draft Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy. Amendments were made to the Policy and a further shorter period of consultation has been carried out.
- 5.2 Attached at Appendix 1 is the table of responses that have been received in this second period of consultation. The Taxi Policy is at Appendix 2 which can be viewed [here](#) or by following the pathway www.colchester.gov.uk. Your Council/Committees, Agenda, Minutes/Licensing Committee/21 March 2018. The recent changes are shown in bold type. A timetable for the staggered introduction of the various elements of the Policy will be available at the meeting.

6. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications

- 6.1 The draft Policy has been developed in accordance with and taken account of, all relevant legislation and national and local strategies.

7. Strategic Plan References

- 7.1 The Policy aims to contribute to the Council's priorities for the Borough and in particular to support the Growth, Wellbeing and Opportunity priorities by working with the licensed trade to promote the town and make it a safer place.

8. Publicity Considerations

- 8.1 The original draft revised policy was the subject of an extensive consultation process. The recent consultation was sent to all licence holders.

9. Financial Implications

- 9.1 There may be costs incurred in defending any action brought against the Council which seeks to judicially review the policy. However, having consulted extensively it is hoped that such a challenge is unlikely.

10. Community Safety Implications

- 10.1 The policy deals with the protection of children and vulnerable adults.

11. Health and Safety Implications

- 11.1 There is no known direct public health and safety issues which might arise from the adoption of the revised Policy.

12. Risk Management Implications

- 12.1 A flexible yet robust revised Policy will continue to provide both the Council with a sound basis for decision making.