

**COLCHESTER CITY COUNCIL  
LICENSING COMMITTEE  
17 JANUARY 2024  
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**Part A**

(open to the public including the media)

**3. Urgent Item**

**The Chair has agreed to take the following item as an urgent item. The urgency arises from the need to progress a Motion agreed at Full Council on 7 December 2023 agreeing to lobby the Department of Transport to provide regulations mandating the provision of closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras in vehicles licensed by local authorities.**

**Draft letter to the Department of Transport.**

The draft letter, which will be sent by the Chair of the Licensing Committee, will be presented to the Committee, as the request contained in the letter has the potential to impact its future work.

Councillor Dave Harris  
[Dave.Harris@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:Dave.Harris@colchester.gov.uk)  
Date 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024

The Rt Hon Mark Harper MP  
Secretary of State for Transport  
Great Minister House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DE

Dear Secretary of State

I am writing to you in connection with a motion relating to CCTV/Taxi Cameras that was approved and adopted by Colchester City Council at its meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December 2023.

The wording of the motion was as follows: -

“That this Council agrees to lobby the relevant Government Department to introduce mandatory regulations which would install CCTV / taxi cameras in Hackney Carriage /Private Hire vehicles which would be to the benefit of both drivers and customers in the City of Colchester area. And to seek funding to help with installation and or data management running costs.”

We believe that the safety of all those travelling in Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles, be they passengers or drivers, would be dramatically enhanced with the introduction of CCTV/taxi cameras. Currently efforts to introduce such measures are undermined by a drivers’ ability to operate in an area with more stringent requirements, such as CCTV, yet be licensed by a different authority with a more lenient approach.

If mandatory regulations across all licensing authorities supported with suitable funding were in place, all vehicles would have the benefit of cameras, no matter which authority provided the licence and those travelling or providing a service would be better protected.

In accordance with the terms of the motion I am writing to you on behalf of the Council to ask that the government take the actions set out in the motion.

I look forward to your response to the motion.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Dave Harris  
**Chair of the Licensing Committee**  
**Ward Member for Berechurch**

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