



Licensing

Committee

Tue 29 Sep
2020
7.00 pm

Virtual meeting

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

*making
a
difference*

www.redditchbc.gov.uk

**If you have any queries on this Agenda please contact
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GUIDANCE ON VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic Redditch Borough Council will be holding this meeting in accordance with the relevant legislation for remote meetings of a local authority. For more information please refer to the Local Authorities and Police Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authorities and Police Crime Panels meeting) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

The meeting is open to the public except for any exempt/confidential items. Where a meeting is held remotely "open" means available for live viewing. Members of the public will be able to see and hear the meetings via a live stream to the Council's YouTube Channel which can be accessed using the link below:

[Link to view Licensing Committee meeting](#)

Members of the Committee, officers and public speakers will participate in the meeting using Sykpe, and details of any access codes/passwords will be made available separately.

If you have any questions regarding the agenda or attached papers please do not hesitate to contact the officer named below.

Although this is a public meeting there are circumstances when the committee might have to move into closed session to consider exempt to confidential information. For agenda items that are exempt, the public are excluded and for any such items the live stream will be suspended and that part of the meeting will not be recorded.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Council has introduced public speaking at Licensing Committee which allows members of the public to comment on the agenda items due to be considered at the meeting. The usual process for public speaking at meetings of Licensing Committee will continue to be followed (with some minor changes to allow for virtual meetings), and public speakers will be invited to participate in the Skype meeting.

The total maximum time permitted for public speaking is 15 minutes and the time limit for individual speakers is 3 minutes per speaker.

Only those members of the public who have registered to speak in advance of the meeting will be permitted to do so.

To register to speak you must contact Democratic Services by phone on 01527 64252 ext 2884, or by email at sarah.sellers@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk before 12 noon on Friday 25th September.

When registering to speak you must give your name, contact telephone number, and email address, and indicate which agenda item(s) you wish to speak about, and whether you are in support of or opposed to the officer recommendation.

Licensing

COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 29th September, 2020

7.00 pm

Virtual Meeting - Skype - Virtual

Agenda

Membership:

Cllrs:	Salman Akbar (Chair)	Pattie Hill
	Roger Bennett (Vice-Chair)	Ann Isherwood
	Joanne Beecham	Wanda King
	Michael Chalk	Gareth Prosser
	Andrew Fry	Yvonne Smith
	Julian Grubb	

1. Chairs Welcome

2. Apologies

3. Declarations of Interest

To invite Councillors to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and / or Other Disclosable Interests they may have in items on the agenda, and to confirm the nature of those interests.

4. Minutes (Pages 1 - 14)

To confirm as a true record the minutes of the Licensing Committee held on Monday 27th January 2020.

5. Public Speaking

6. Verbal Update on WRS (Licensing) response to Covid-19, including summary of decisions taken under delegated authority

7. Results of consultation on options for amending the current requirements for applicants and licence holders to demonstrate their medical fitness to drive taxi and private hire vehicles (Pages 15 - 32)

8. Results of consultation on removing the requirement for licensed drivers to undertake a practical driving assessment every three years (Pages 33 - 50)

9. Work Programme (Pages 51 - 52)



Licensing Committee

Monday, 27 January 2020

MINUTES

Present:

Councillor Salman Akbar (Chair), Councillor Michael Chalk (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Joanne Beecham, Brandon Clayton, Andrew Fry, Julian Grubb, Ann Isherwood, Yvonne Smith and Mark Shurmer

Also Present:

Officers:

Dave Etheridge and Vanessa Brown

Committee Services Officer:

Sarah Sellers

16. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Pattie Hill and Gareth Prosser. Councillor Mark Shurmer attended as substitute for Councillor Hill.

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

18. MINUTES

RESOLVED that

the Minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 4th November 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

.....
Chair

Licensing Committee

Monday, 27 January 2020

19. PUBLIC SPEAKING

Councillor Greg Chance (Central Ward) and Mr Imran Altaf from the Redditch Taxi Association addressed the Committee under the Council's Public Speaking Rules.

20. REQUIREMENT OF LICENSED DRIVERS TO UNDERTAKE A DRIVING ASSESSMENT EVERY THREE YEARS

Members received a report asking them to consider whether or not to undertake a consultation exercise regarding removal of the current requirement for licensed drivers to undertake a practical driving assessment every three years.

The Senior Practitioner (Licensing) (SPL), Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS) presented the report and explained that in November 2017 Licensing Committee had resolved to introduce a requirement that holders of drivers licences must undertake refresher training in disability awareness and must pass a driving assessment test at least every three years.

This requirement was formally introduced as policy from December 2017. It was noted that the licensed trade had consistently challenged the policy on the grounds that they believed it to be disproportionate and unreasonable.

The issue had been raised by licence holders at the Taxi Liaison Forum held in September 2019, which had led to the issue being added to the work programme for Licensing Committee.

The proposal before Members was to carry out a consultation exercise on removing the requirement for the three yearly driving assessment. Officers were not proposing to consult on the requirement to undertake disability awareness training which would remain in force.

In response to questions from Members the SPL clarified that:-

- The policy was introduced following the outcome of an Overview and Scrutiny exercise looking at access to taxis for passengers with disabilities.
- Redditch was the only District Council in Worcestershire to require its licenced drivers to carry out three yearly driving assessments.
- Consultation would be required for any change of policy, and the consultees would include the licensed trade, relevant stakeholders and the public.

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- The outcome of the consultation would be likely to be reported back to Licensing Committee in July 2020
- In the meantime, WRS were taking the stance that the earliest any drivers would have to take a driving assessment would be December 2020.

In debating the proposal, Members were generally supportive of a consultation being carried out and commented on concerns that the three yearly testing regime could be regarded as overly burdensome for drivers.

It was noted that the drivers would not be prejudiced by a delay of a few months for the consultation to be carried out as there were no drivers who would be expected to take a driving assessment under the current policy until December 2020 at the earliest.

RESOLVED that

Members direct officers to undertake consultation on removing the requirement for individuals licensed to drive hackney carriage and/or private hire vehicles to undertake a practical driving assessment every three years.

21. CONSIDERATION OF THE INTRODUCTION OF VEHICLE LIVERY REQUIREMENTS FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

Members received a report asking them to consider whether or not to undertake a consultation exercise regarding introducing requirements for the display of livery on hackney carriage and private hire vehicles licensed by the Council.

The Senior Practitioner (Licensing) (SPL), Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS) presented the report and explained that when issuing licences the Council could attach such conditions as it deemed to be necessary. In some areas Councils attached conditions requiring the display of signage or livery on licensed vehicles. Typically the signage would include the logo of the council together with information identifying the vehicle and its status as either a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle.

The aim of the livery would be to indicate to members of the public that the vehicle had been licensed by the council as either a hackney carriage or a private hire vehicle and provide assurance that the vehicle had been properly checked and approved.

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The options for installing the signage on vehicles included wording being sign-written on directly to the body, or separate signs being affixed either magnetically or using an adhesive decal. The SPL had brought some samples of the magnetic signage and the adhesive decals used by other councils to show the Members, together with some examples of what the art work might look like for signage for Redditch Borough Council.

With regard to cost, the adhesive decal signage would cost approximately £7.50 for two doors. To add a magnetic base for the decal to be attached to would cost an additional £5.00, giving a total cost for magnetic signs of £12.50 for two doors. It was not being suggested that the proposed signage would replace the current licence plate displayed on the rear of vehicles. This would still be displayed and the signage would be additional.

In response to questions from Members the SPL confirmed that:-

- The potential advantage of introducing livery would be to identify vehicles licensed by the Council and that this may be of value to some passengers particular those who were looking for reassurance regarding standards and that the driver would have local knowledge of the area. By contrast, these issues might not be important to other passengers.
- If signage was lost or stolen there would probably have to be a replacement cost to the drivers in the same way as currently applies to lost or stolen licence plates.
- It would be open to customers booking private hire vehicles to request a vehicle licensed by Redditch but legally the operator could still out source jobs to other licensed drivers. Passengers might find that there was a longer wait for a Redditch licensed vehicle, and if that vehicle had had to travel a greater distance to pick them up, this might be reflected in higher charges.

In debating the report Members were generally in support of proceeding with a consultation exercise and referred to the potential advantages of providing the travelling public with a means of more readily identifying which vehicles had been licensed by the Council. Other views were expressed questioning the possible financial impact on drivers of the introduction of a livery together with concerns that use of the adhesive decal option could lead to paintwork being damaged when the stickers were removed.

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RESOLVED that

Officers undertake consultation on the introduction of requirements in relation to the display of livery in hackney carriage and private hire vehicles licensed by the Council.

22. REVIEW OF PROVISION OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE STANDS

Members received a report asking them to consider whether or not to direct officers to engage in exploratory discussions regarding the feasibility of making changes to the provision of hackney carriage stands in the Borough. In particular Members had previously made three suggestions set out in paragraph 2 of the report as follows:-

- a. The creation of a new hackney carriage stand at Redditch Railway Station.
- b. The creation of a new hackney carriage stand at the Alexandra Hospital, Redditch.
- c. Making alterations to the current hackney carriage stand located at Unicorn Hill and creating a new hackney carriage stand in Bates Hill.

The Senior Practitioner (Licensing) (SPL), Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS) presented the report and gave an overview of where the existing hackney carriage stands were located referring Members to aerial photographs of the different locations (Appendix 1 of the Minutes).

The five existing hackney carriage stands identified were as follows:-

1. At Unicorn Hill - operating 24 hours a day.
2. At Trafford Retail park on the highway at Trescott Road (next to Costa coffee) and on the car park itself adjacent to Aldi (both operating 24 hours a day).
3. On the highway at Queen Street/ Red Lion Street – operating 24 hours a day.
4. At Redditch Bus Station on land owned by the Kingfisher Centre - operating 24 hours a day.
5. On Evesham Road at Headless Cross between the hours of 8pm and 6 pm at the bus stop near “ Steps” and the bus stop opposite the White Hart.

It was noted that there was a five year lease in place between the Council and the Kingfisher Centre regarding the hackney carriage stand at the bus stations, and that this was due to be re-newed later in the year.

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The SPL explained that the idea for Unicorn Hill would be to reduce the existing rank to 3 to 4 spaces during the day time and convert the spaces freed up to short term parking. The displaced taxis would be accommodated by the creation of a new hackney carriage stand on Bates Hill. During evenings there would be extra spaces available for hackney carriage vehicles as Unicorn Hill would revert from short term parking to a taxi stand and the additional spaces at Bates Hill would also be available.

The SPL stressed to Members that the report was not recommending formal “consultation” at this stage. Rather, that the officers would in the first instance have to carry out preliminary discussions with stakeholders to establish if any of the ideas were feasible. With regard to the hospital and the station these would be discussions with the relevant land owners as both locations would involve the creation of a hackney carriage stand on private land. With regard to Unicorn Hill, there would need to be detailed discussions with the highways authority and the police.

If the preliminary discussions were positive, then a further report would be brought to the Licensing Committee inviting members to consider moving on to a formal consultation.

In debating the proposals Members referred to a number of issues including:-

- Concerns that in comparison to Unicorn Hill, Bates Hill was more isolated and had poorer lighting.
- That it would be beneficial to introduce a hackney carriage stand at the hospital and that it would increase the choice available to the public; currently the only facility for the public using the hospital was a free phone to call a private hire vehicle.
- That changing the hackney carriage stand to short term parking on Unicorn Hill could be of benefit for shoppers and for the local businesses on Unicorn Hill.
- That in agreeing any changes, Members would want to ensure that the number of spaces available on the amended hackney carriage stands would represent an increase compared to current provision. In this regard it was noted that Bates Hill could potentially act as a feeder rank and the Chair confirmed that there was no intention to reduce the amount of hackney carriage stand provision available.

Overall, Members were in support of proceeding with the next stage of discussions between officers and the relevant stakeholders.

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RESOLVED that

Officers engage with the relevant stakeholders to explore the possibility of the following:-

- a. The creation of a new hackney carriage stand at Redditch Railway Station.**
- b. The creation of a new hackney carriage stand at the Alexandra Hospital, Redditch.**
- c. Making alterations to the current hackney carriage stand located at Unicorn Hill and creating a new hackney carriage stand in Bates Hill.**

[Prior to the commencement of this item the Chair used his discretion to allow Mr Imran Altaf from the Redditch Taxi Association the opportunity to make comments on matters he had not addressed during the public speaking at Agenda item 4. The Chair reminded the meeting that going forward, all comments from public speakers would have to be made at Agenda item 4 and not on a report by report basis.]

23. WORK PROGRAMME

Members were referred to the Work Programme at page 21 of the agenda and officers clarified that the next meeting of the Licensing Committee had been put back and would take place on Monday 30th March 2020.

It was noted that the outcomes of the consultations on driving assessments and livery would have to be added to the work programme together with the feedback regarding hackney carriage stands. Officers were also still waiting for the government to issue the new Department for Transport Draft Guidance on Safeguarding but it was not known when this would be published.

Subject to these matters it was

RESOLVED that

The Licensing Committee Work Programme 2019/20 be noted.

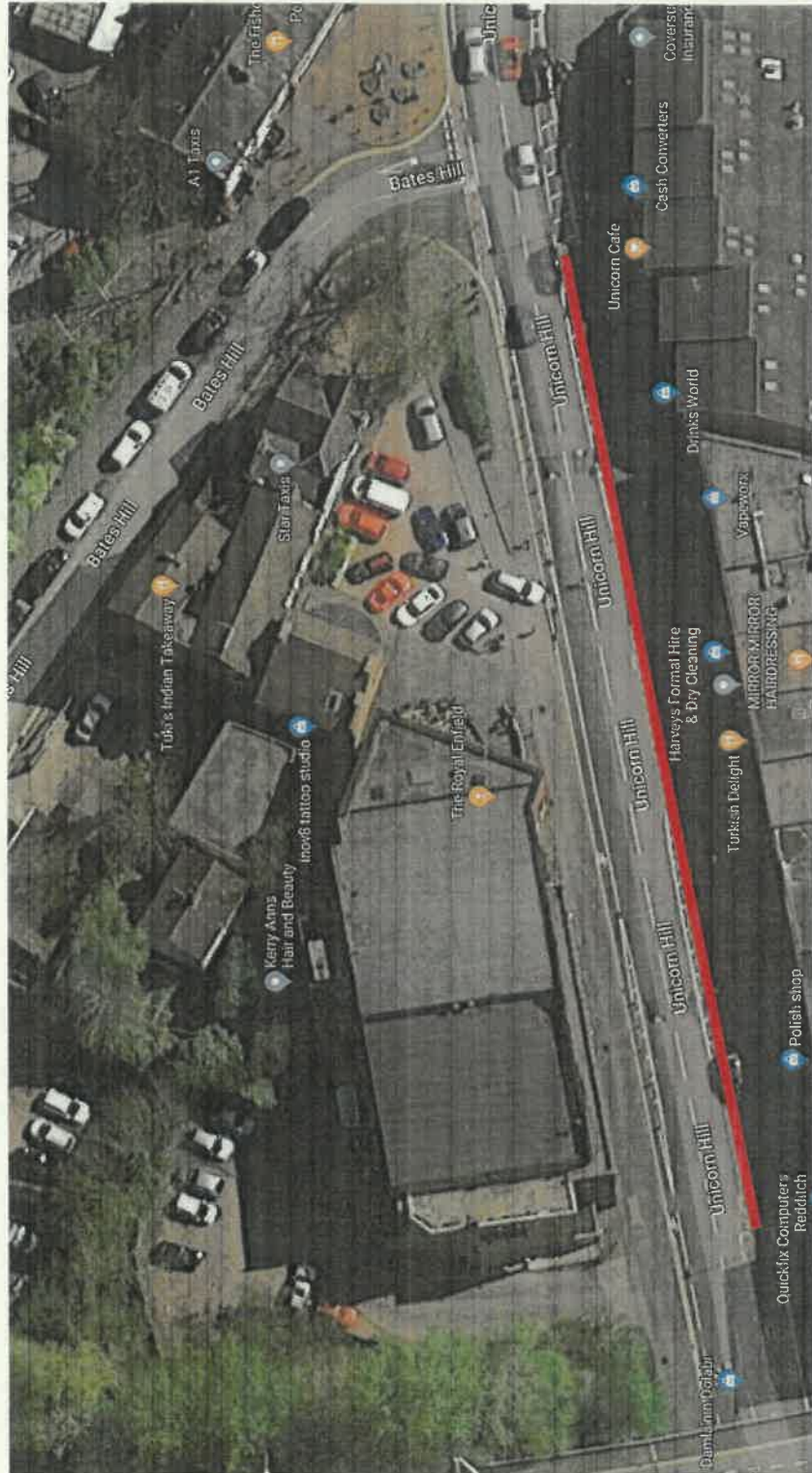
The Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm
and closed at 8.52 pm

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Current Hackney Carriage Stands in Redditch

Unicorn Hill

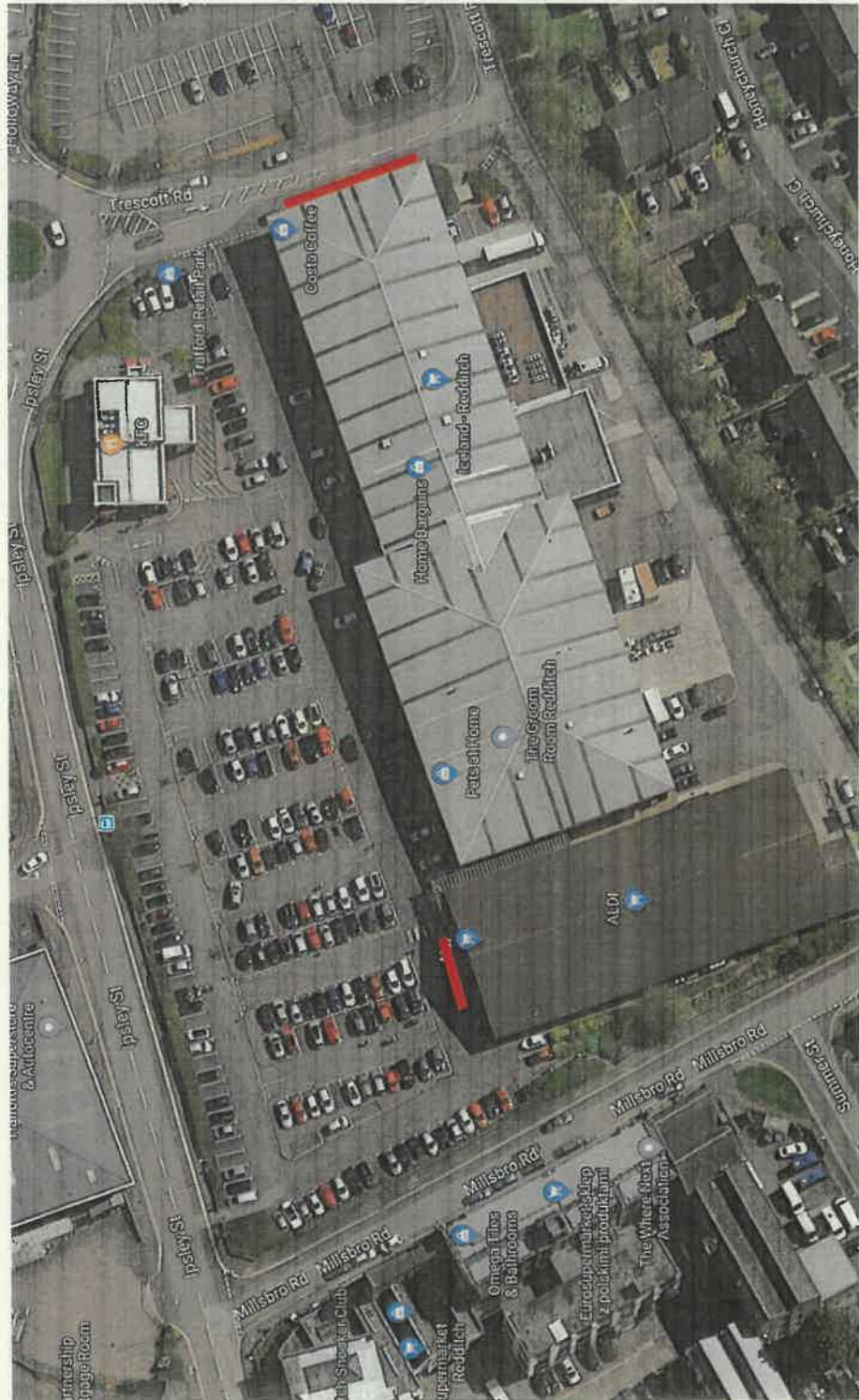
On highway – operates 24 hours a day



Trafford Retail Park

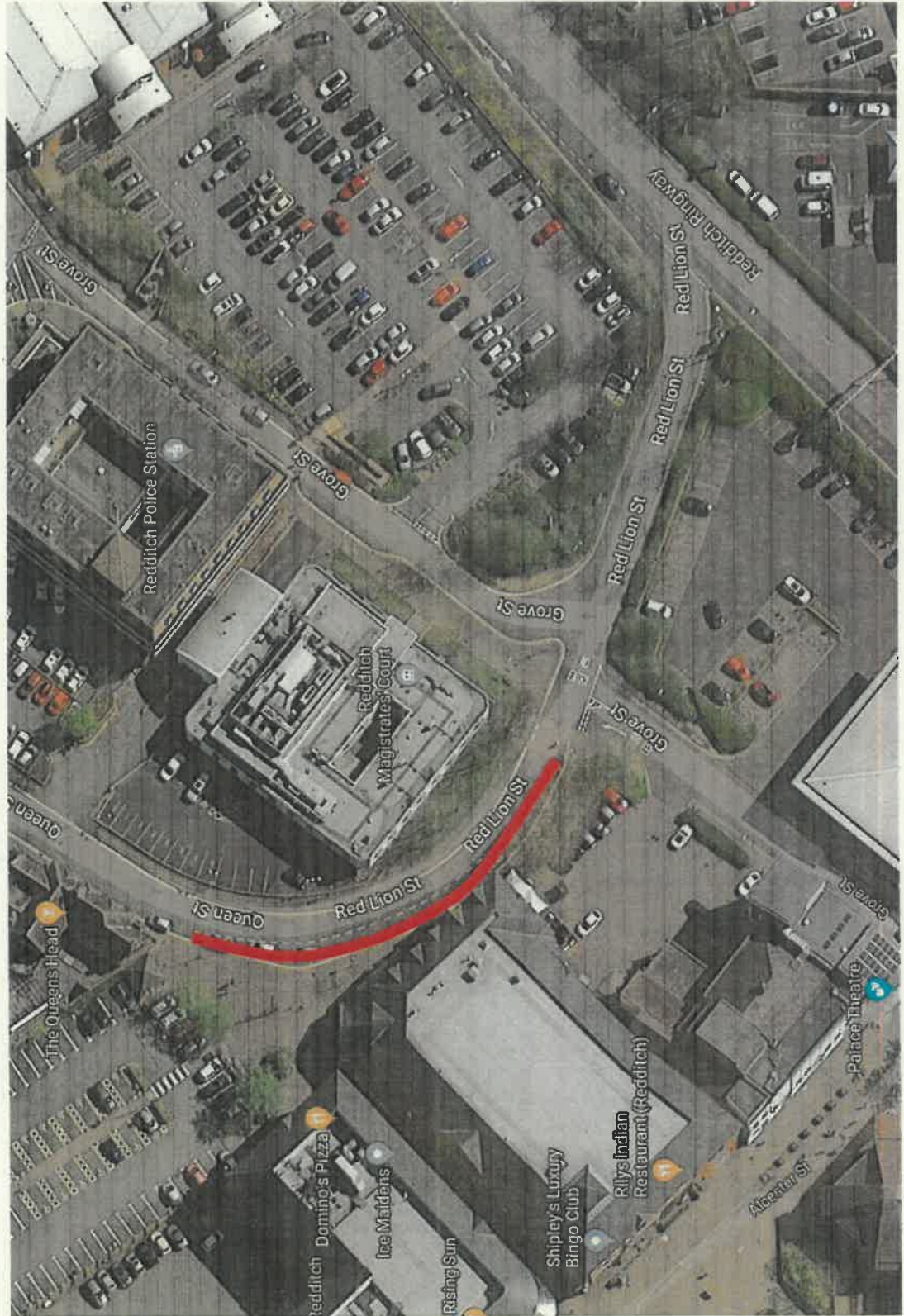
Trescott Road – on highway – operates 24 hours a day

Outside Aldi – on private land – operates 24 hours a day

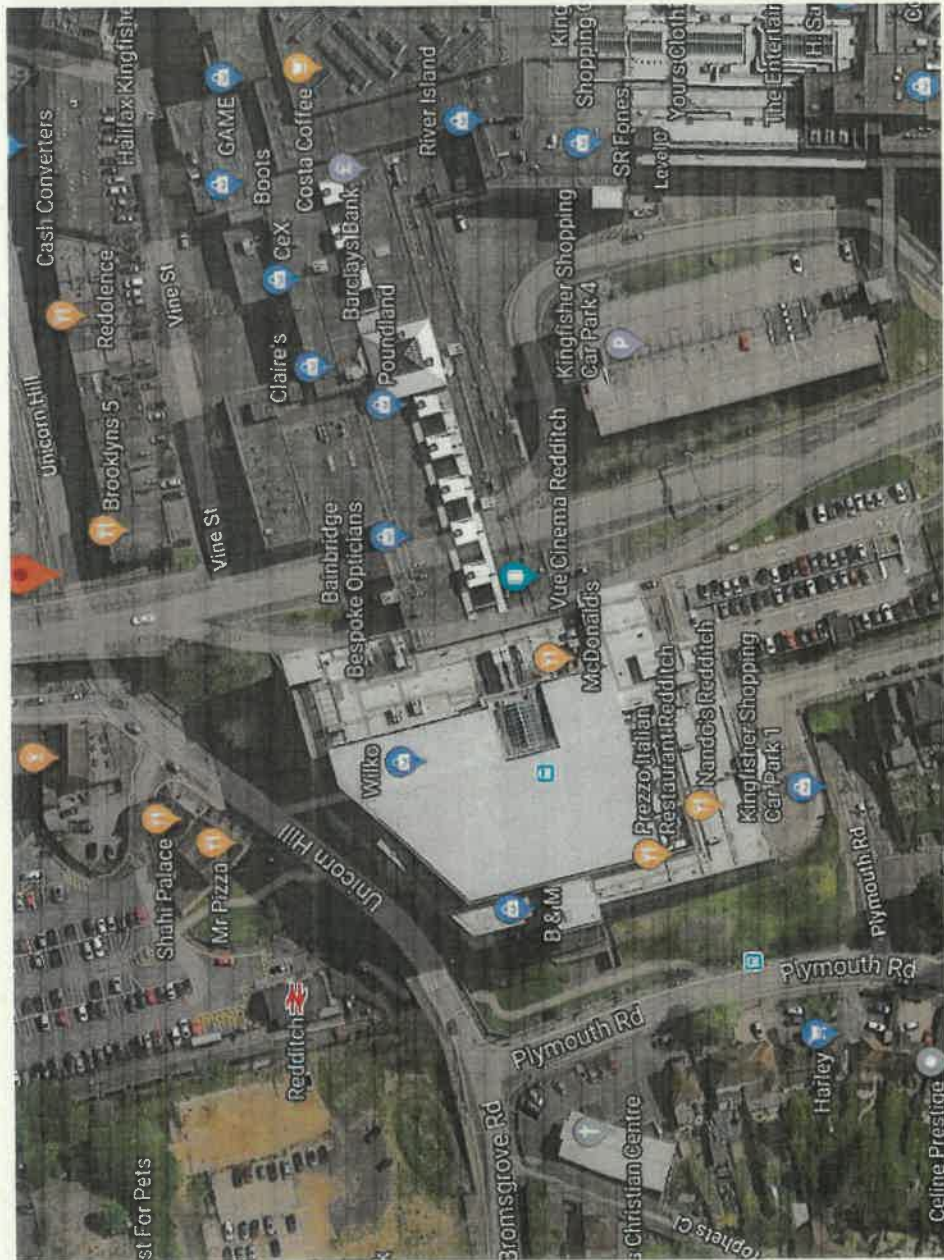


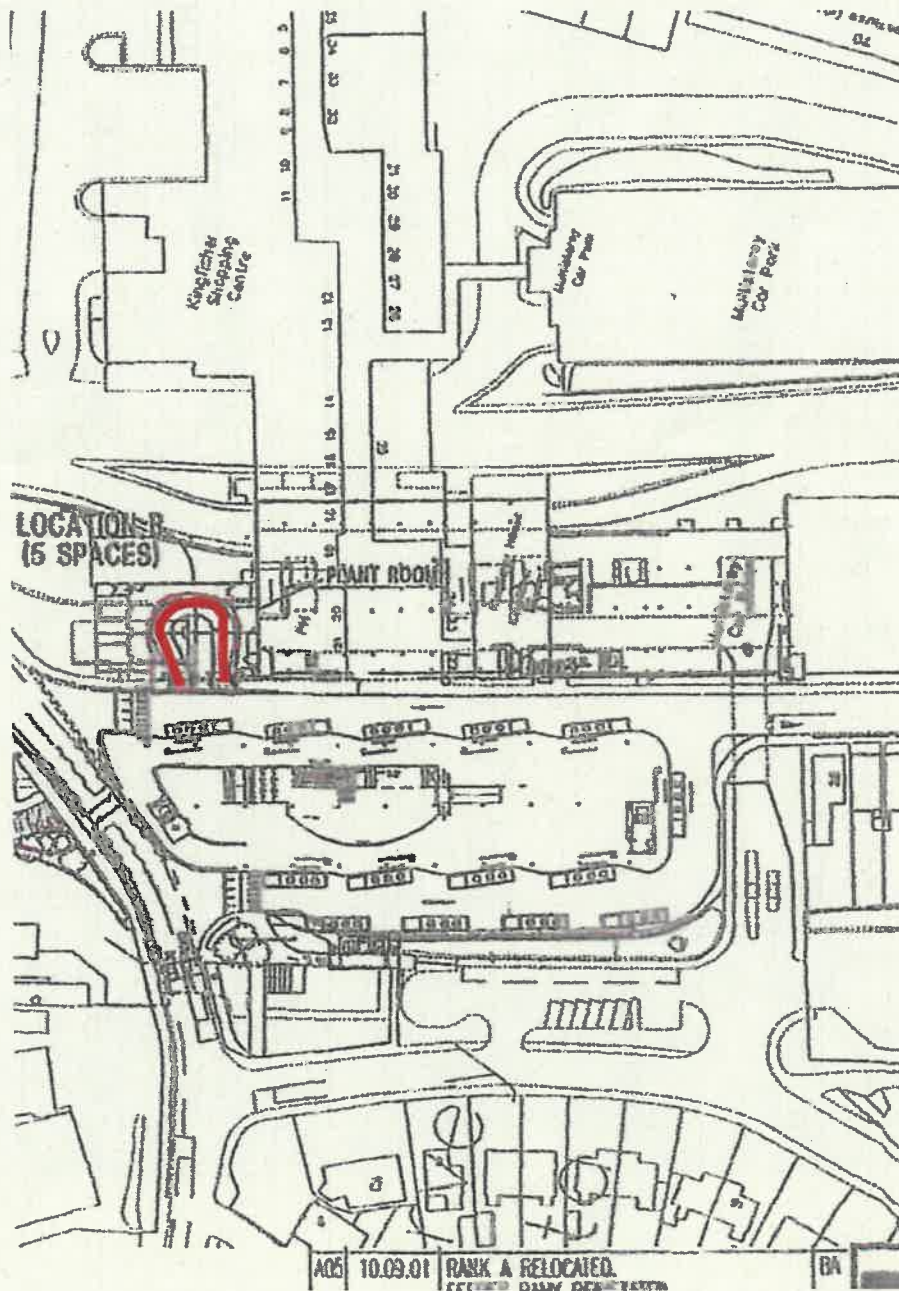
Queen Street / Red Lion Street

On the highway – operates 24 hours per day



On private land – Council has 5 year licence – operates 24 hours a day

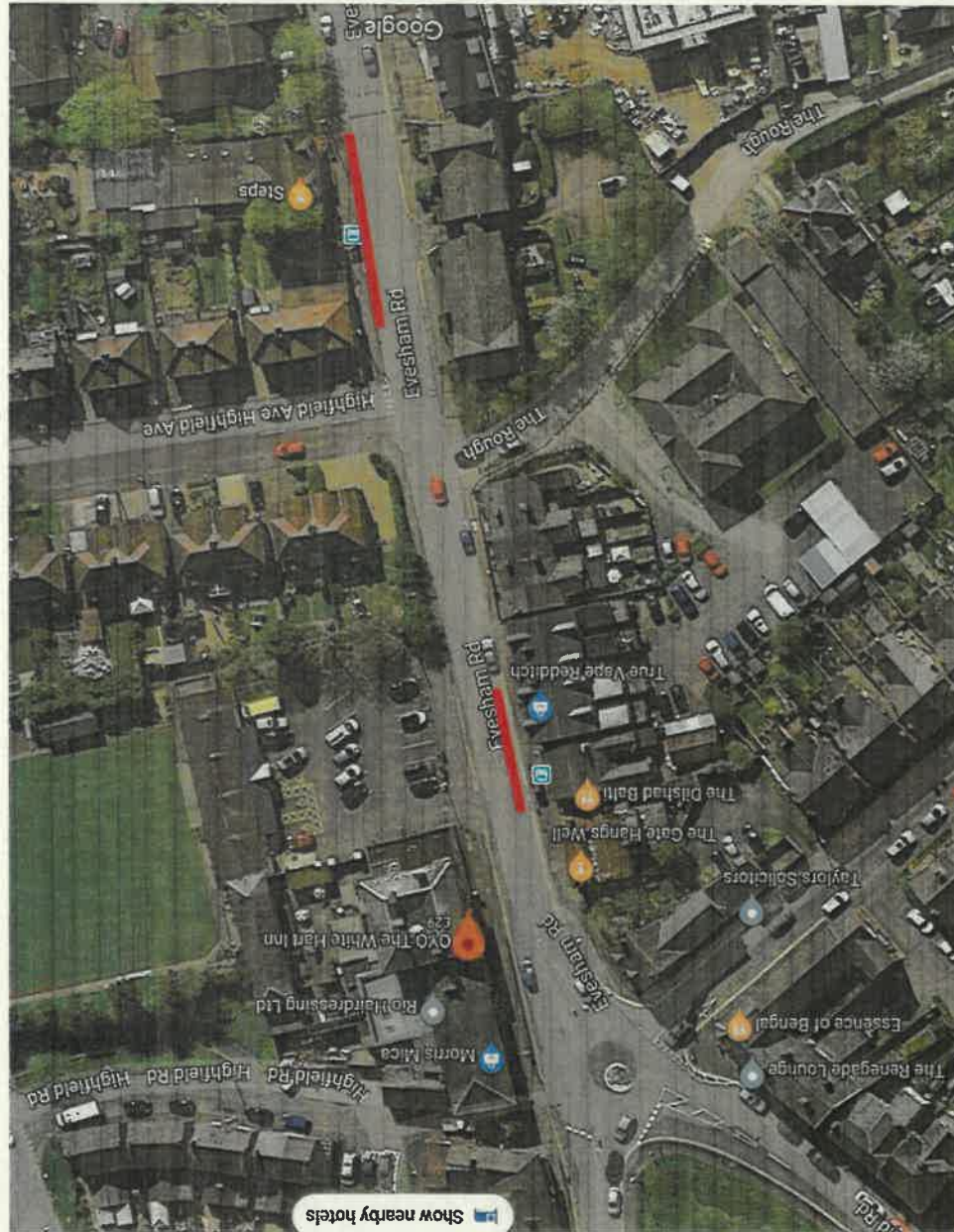




Evesham Road (Headless Cross)

Bus stop near "Steps" 8pm to 6am

Bus stop opposite "White Hart Inn" 8pm to 6am



REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**LICENSING
COMMITTEE****29th September 2020****RESULTS OF CONSULTATION ON OPTIONS FOR AMENDING THE
CURRENT REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS AND LICENCE HOLDERS
TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR MEDICAL FITNESS TO DRIVE TAXI AND
PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Grubb
Portfolio Holder Consulted	No
Relevant Head of Service	Simon Wilkes – Head of Worcestershire Regulatory Services
Wards Affected	All Wards
Ward Councillor Consulted	N/A
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

Members are asked to consider the responses received during the a consultation exercise undertaken in relation to potential amendments to the Council's current requirements in place for licence holders and applicants to demonstrate their medical fitness to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to consider the responses received during the consultation and RESOLVE;

To direct officers to take such steps (if any) that they wish them to take to implement amended requirements for licence holders and applicants to demonstrate their medical fitness to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles.

3. KEY ISSUES**Financial Implications**

- 3.1 The costs of carrying on the consultation exercise were met from existing budgets held by Worcestershire Regulatory Services. Any further work required by officers to implement amended requirements would also need to be met from existing budgets held by Worcestershire Regulatory Services.
- 3.2 Depending on what amended requirements are implemented, the financial costs that are incurred by applicants and licence holders in meeting the requirements to demonstrate their medical fitness could either increase or decrease.

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Legal Implications

- 3.3 A district council cannot grant a licence to someone to drive either hackney carriage or private hire vehicles unless they are satisfied that the applicant is a fit and proper person to hold a driver's licence.
- 3.4 Once licensed, a district council can suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a driver's licence on any of the following grounds:
- a) That he has since the grant of the licence:-
 - (i) been convicted of an offence involving, dishonesty or violence, or
 - (ii) been convicted of an offence under or has failed to comply with the provisions of the Act of 1847 or of this part of this act,
 - aa) that he has since the grant of the licence been convicted of an immigration offence or required to pay an immigration penalty, or
 - b) any other reasonable cause.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.5 This report was originally published for consideration at the Licensing Committee meeting scheduled to take place on 30th March 2020. This meeting was cancelled in light of government guidance resulting from the coronavirus outbreak.
- 3.6 The Council has a duty to ensure that all those that it licences to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles are "fit and proper" persons to hold such licences.
- 3.7 There is no definition of "fit and proper" provided in the relevant legislation, however Council's usually consider the following sorts of matters when reaching a decision on an individual's suitability:
- Criminal conviction history
 - Driving licence history
 - Geographic knowledge
 - Ability to communicate
 - Competency in basic mathematics
 - Ability to learn and follow rules and regulations
 - Medical fitness

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3.8 In terms of assessing medical fitness, the vast majority of Councils have adopted a requirement that those that it licences to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles must meet the “Group 2” medical standards described in the DVLA publication “Assessing fitness to drive – a guide for medical professionals.” A copy of this publication has previously been circulated to Members.

3.9 The “Group 2” standards are the standards that are applied to bus and lorry drivers and are a higher standard than is required generally by all those licensed by the DVLA to drive a car on UK roads.

3.10 Redditch Borough Council’s current policy on the licensing of individuals to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles imposes the following requirements:

Applicants should be medically fit to drive hackney carriages or private hire vehicles and shall give proof of their medical fitness by completing and submitting a medical certificate carried out by a registered medical practitioner authorised by this Council (to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency’s Group 2 medical standards). This medical will include a drugs test.

3.11 Currently all those who hold licences to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles are required to undertake a medical examination on initial application and then every 5 years until they reach the age of 60. From the age of 60 – 65 the medical is required every 3 years and then those over 65 have to provide a medical certificate annually.

3.12 When these requirements were introduced, the Council had in place two authorised medical practitioners to undertake the medical examinations. One of these two medical practitioners has subsequently retired leaving just one in place.

3.13 Officers have a number of concerns about the current arrangements:

- Licence holders and applicants are reporting that it has become increasingly difficult to obtain appointments in a timely manner due to the limited availability of the approved medical practitioner.
- The authorised medical practitioner’s surgery is not located within the Borough of Redditch meaning applicants and licence holders having to travel a long distance to undertake their medical examinations.

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- The authorised medical practitioner effectively has a monopoly on providing this service, for which he is paid by the licence holder / applicant.
 - The frequency of medical examinations required is not consistent with the DVLA publication “Assessing fitness to drive – a guide for medical professionals.”
- 3.14 On 9th July 2019, the Licensing Committee considered a report on this matter and resolved to request officers carry out consultation on amending the Council’s current requirements in relation to licence holders and applicants demonstrating their medical fitness to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles.
- 3.15 This consultation was undertaken between December 2019 and February 2020. A copy of the consultation survey can be seen at **Appendix 1**.
- 3.16 The consultation document was sent to the following:
- Hackney carriage and private hire licence holders
 - West Mercia Police (North Worcestershire Licensing)
 - West Mercia Safer Roads Partnership
 - National Taxi Association
 - National Private Hire Association
 - Licensed Private Hire Car Association
 - Redditch Borough Councillors
 - Feckenham Parish Council
- 3.17 An electronic version of the consultation survey was also hosted on the Council’s website and attempts were made to publicise the consultation via the press and social media.
- 3.18 The consultation asked respondents to answer questions around the following matters:
- Who should conduct the medical examinations?
 - How often medical examinations should be required?
 - How effective is drug testing as part of the medical examination?
- 3.19 A summary of the responses received during the consultation exercise can be seen at **Appendix 2**.

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- 3.20 Members are asked to consider the responses received during the consultation exercise and to direct officers to take such steps (if any) that they wish officers to take to implement amended requirements for licence holders and applicants to demonstrate their medical fitness to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 None

5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Consultation survey

Appendix 2 – Summary of responses received during consultation exercise

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

DVLA publication: Assessing fitness to drive – a guide for medical professionals

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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Worcestershire Regulatory Services

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Tel: (01905) 822799

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Consultation on arrangements for medical examinations of those licensed to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles

December 2019

Consultation on arrangements for medical examinations of those licensed to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles

Introduction and Background

Local authorities cannot grant individuals licences to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles unless they are satisfied that the individual is a “fit and proper person” to hold a licence.

As licence holders will be driving paying passengers on public roads, an important part of this assessment will be to ensure that the individual is medically fit to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles.

The Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) have published a document entitled “Assessing fitness to drive – a guide for medical professionals.” This document details the UK medical standards for driver licensing and refer to Group 1 and Group 2 licence holders:

- Group 1 includes cars and motorcycles
- Group 2 includes large lorries (category C) and buses (category D)

The Department for Transport publication “Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing: Best Practice Guidance” recommends that the Group 2 medical standards are applied to hackney carriage and private hire drivers.

Current Position in Redditch Borough

Currently those individuals applying to Redditch Borough Council for licences to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles have to be examined by the one of the Council’s approved medical practitioners.

A medical examination is required upon initial application and then a further medical examination is required every five years, regardless of the age of the licence holder. Once a licence holder reaches 65 years of age, they require a medical examination annually.

The Council only has one appointed medical practitioner currently following the retirement of the other previously approved medical practitioner.

The Council’s approved medical practitioner has to certify that the applicant meets the Group 2 medical standards before a licence can be granted. The approved medical practitioner also carries out a drug test on each person as part of the medical examination.

If an existing licence holder is found to not meet the Group 2 standards or fails a drug test, it is open to the Council to suspend or revoke the individual licence.

Individuals undertaken medical examinations make payment directly to the Council’s approved medical practitioner.

Changes being considered

The Council's Licensing Committee have resolved to review the current arrangements in place for the medical examination of those licensed to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles.

Particular matters being reviewed include:

- Who should conduct the medical examinations?
- How often medical examinations should be required?
- How effective is drug testing as part of the medical examination?

Who should conduct the medical examinations?

Currently applicants and licence holders have to visit the Council's only approved medical practitioner for a medical examination. The current arrangements are not considered satisfactory for the following reasons:

- Appointment availability is limited as a result of there being only one approved medical practitioner
- The approved medical practitioner has an effective monopoly on providing this service to applicants and licence holders.
- The approved medical practitioner's surgery is based outside of the borough of Redditch.

Alternative approaches could include:

- The Council could look to expand its list of approved medical practitioners with applicants and licence holders having to be examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by one of the approved medical practitioners.
- Applicants and licence holders can be examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by any registered medical practitioner.
- Applicants and licence holders being examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by a registered medical practitioner at the GP practice at which they are personally registered.

Consultation Question 1

Rank the following options in order of your preference 1 to 4.

1 = (most preferred option)

4 = (least preferred option)

Option	Preference
Council expands its list of approved medical practitioners with applicants and licence holders having to be examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by one of these approved medical practitioners	
Applicants and licence holders can be examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by any registered medical practitioner.	
Applicants and licence holders being examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by a registered medical practitioner at the GP practice at which they are personally registered.	
The existing arrangements to remain in place	

How often should medical examinations be required?

Currently a medical examination is required to be undertaken before an individual is licensed to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles for the first time and then a further medical is required every five years, regardless of the age of the licence holder. Once a licence holder reaches 65 years of age, they require a medical examination annually.

Under the terms of the Department for Transport publication “Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing: Best Practice Guidance” all initial Group 2 licence applicants require a medical assessment. The same assessment is required again at 45 years of age and then every five years until the licence holder reaches 65 years of age when the requirement for a medical examination becomes annual without an upper age limit.

Therefore individuals under the age of 45 who hold licences from Redditch Borough Council to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles are currently being required to undertake medical examinations more frequently than Group 2 licence holders. Given the significant costs associated with undertaking a medical examination, including paying the fee charged by the medical practitioner and taking time off work, this could be considered to be unduly burdensome.

Alternatively it could equally be argued that requiring more frequent medical assessments is justifiable in the interests of the safety of the travelling public.

Consultation Question 2

Please tick which of the following options you think the Council should implement:

Option	Tick (✓)
Maintain the current requirement for a medical examination every 5 years regardless of age and annually from the age of 65.	
Amend the requirement so that medical examinations are required in line with the Group 2 standards set out in the Department for Transport publication “Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing: Best Practice Guidance” – on initial application and then every 5 years once the licence holder reaches the age of 45 and annually once the licence holder reaches the age of 65.	

How effective is drug testing as part of the medical examination?

Currently medical examinations include the applicant providing a urine sample for the purposes of a drug test. No licence holder or applicant has failed one of these drug tests for many years.

Given that applicants and licence holders have advance knowledge when they will be required to undertake a medical examination and drug test, it is fairly easy to take steps to ensure that they do not fail the drug test when it is undertaken as drugs are only traceable in someone's urine for a limited amount of time. For example research has shown that urine drug tests are accurate for up to 30 days of cannabis consumption, depending on the amount of the drug that is smoked by an individual.

The lack of positive results from the current drug testing arrangements could indicate one of two things:

- No applicants or licence holders ever take illegal drugs
- The drug testing arrangements are ineffective at identifying applicants and licence holders who take illegal drugs

Either way the requirement to undertake a drug test as part of the medical could be considered to be unnecessary or else ineffective.

The Council is therefore considering alternative approaches to drug testing and removing the requirement to undertake a drug test at the time of the medical examination. These alternative approaches to drug testing could involve drug testing of licence holders without prior notice or at very short notice.

This type of drug testing would potentially have to be carried out in partnership with the Police and on an intelligence-led basis.

Consultation Question 3

Please tick which of the following options you think the Council should implement:

Option	Tick (✓)
Maintain the current requirement for a drug test to be undertaken as part of the medical examination.	
Remove the requirement for a drug test as part of the medical examination and adopt alternative approaches to drug testing	

Do you have any other comments or suggestions to make in relation to the arrangements in place for medical examinations of those licensed to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles? If so, please make those comments or suggestions here.

Responding to this consultation

By email

Completed copies of this consultation document can be emailed to:
enquiries@worcsregservices.gov.uk

Please use the subject line “Redditch Taxi Medicals Consultation.”

By post

Responses can also be submitted via the post to:

Redditch Taxi Consultation
Worcestershire Regulatory Services
Wyre Forest House
Finepoint Way
Kidderminster
Worcestershire
DY11 7WF

Online

An online version of this consultation is available at:

www.redditchbc.gov.uk/consultations

The consultation will be open for responses until **14 February 2020**. All responses received during the consultation period will be considered by the Licensing Committee before any decisions are taken about what changes (if any) will be made to the current arrangements.

Summary of Consultation Reponses

Question 1 – Please rank the following options in order of your preference 1 to 4 (1 = most preferred option and 4 = least preferred option)

Answer Choice	1	2	3	4	Total
Council expands its list of approved medical practitioners with applicants and licence holders having to be examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by one of these approved medical practitioners	2	2	4	3	11
Applicants and licence holders can be examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by any registered medical practitioner.	0	5	4	2	11
Applicants and licence holders being examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by a registered medical practitioner at the GP practice at which they are personally registered.	8	1	1	2	12
The existing arrangements to remain in place	3	3	1	5	12

Question 2 – Please tick which of the following options you think the Council should implement

Option	Response (Total)	Response (%)
Maintain the current requirement for a medical examination every 5 years regardless of age and annually from the age of 65.	10	76.9%
Amend the requirement so that medical examinations are required in line with the Group 2 standards set out in the Department for Transport publication “Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing: Best Practice Guidance” – on initial application and then every 5 years once the licence holder reaches the age of 45 and annually once the licence holder reaches the age of 65.	3	23.1%

Question 3 – Please tick which of the following options you think the Council should implement

Option	Response (Total)	Response (%)
Maintain the current requirement for a drug test to be undertaken as part of the medical examination.	5	41.7%
Remove the requirement for a drug test as part of the medical examination and adopt alternative approaches to drug testing	7	58.3%

Question 4 - Do you have any other comments or suggestions to make in relation to the arrangements in place for medical examinations of those licensed to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles? If so, please make those comments or suggestions here.

I believe spot checking to be acceptable for drug abuse. However it should be without passengers in the vehicle or on the way to pick passengers up , especially if this is an early morning trip to the airport meaning the driver will be late for his pick up

Random and on the spot drug and drink testing should be applied

As Redditch and Bromsgrove Councils are, supposedly, aligned, why does Bromsgrove not insist on drug tests for their drivers? Why does the same rule exist for drivers within both areas?

As per VOSA spot check on vehicle. This should be adopted the same as for drugs testing

Drug testing should be done randomly i.e. on the spot. So as anyone who has taken drugs can't get away with it.

Question three – Ideally drug testing unannounced at any time (day or night) is a very good idea...but who pays?
Local authorities don't have enough money and resources to do what they should already be doing.
Alternative approaches far too vague and does not provide enough safeguards for the public.
A possible third option is compulsory drug testing for all annually done at the GP practise they are registered with and additional random totally unannounced testing for at least 50% of the drivers every year. With the requirement that anonymized detailed data is published annually to show that this additional testing is actually being done. Intelligence led testing must also be done.

Drivers who have a long term medical condition should be checked more regularly e.g. if the driver is diabetic, they need to be checked every 2-3 years to ensure customer / patient safety.

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LICENSING COMMITTEE29th September 2020**RESULTS OF CONSULTATION ON REMOVING THE REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSED DRIVERS TO UNDERTAKE A DRIVING ASSESSMENT EVERY THREE YEARS**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Grubb
Portfolio Holder Consulted	No
Relevant Head of Service	Simon Wilkes – Head of Worcestershire Regulatory Services
Wards Affected	All Wards
Ward Councillor Consulted	N/A
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

Members are asked to consider the responses received during a consultation on removing the requirement for individuals licensed to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles to undertake a practical driving assessment every three years.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members consider the responses received to the consultation and RESOLVE whether or not to amend the Council's current policy on the licensing of drivers of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles (shown at Appendix 1) to remove the requirement for individuals licensed to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles to undertake a practical driving assessment every three years.

3. KEY ISSUES**Financial Implications**

- 3.1 The costs associated with carrying out the consultation were met from existing budgets held by Worcestershire Regulatory Services.

Legal Implications

- 3.2 Proper consultation on any proposals to amend the Council's policies minimises the risk of legal challenge if the proposals are subsequently implemented.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.4 The Council's current policy on the licensing of drivers of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles includes the following requirement:

With effect from 1st December 2017, holders of driver licences must undertake refresher training in disability awareness and must pass a Driving Assessment test with Worcestershire County Council at least every three years.

A copy of this policy can be seen at **Appendix 1**.

- 3.5 The Licensing Committee resolved to introduce this requirement at their meeting on 6th November 2017.
- 3.6 The requirement to undertake a driving assessment test every three years has been consistently opposed and challenged by licensed drivers as being disproportionate and unreasonable.
- 3.7 The issue was raised again by licence holders at the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Liaison Forum held in September 2019. At the Licensing Committee held on 4th November 2019, Members resolved to add an item to the Committee's work programme to review the current rules whereby drivers are required to undertake three yearly driver assessments.
- 3.8 Members considered the matter at their meeting on 27th January 2020 and resolved to direct officers to undertake consultation on removing the requirement for individuals licensed to drive hackney carriage and/or private hire vehicles to undertake a practical driving assessment every three years.
- 3.10 The consultation took place between 12th February 2020 and 20th March 2020. A consultation survey was sent out to relevant stakeholders including individuals licensed by the Council to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles. A copy of the consultation survey can be seen at **Appendix 2**.
- 3.11 The consultation survey was also made available to download via the Council's website and was further publicised via the Council's social media channels.
- 3.12 A summary of the responses received during the consultation can be seen at **Appendix 3**.

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL**LICENSING COMMITTEE**29th September 2020

- 3.13 In total 43 responses were received to the consultation. 35 respondents (81.4%) supported the proposal to remove the requirement for individuals licensed to drive hackney carriage and/or private hire vehicles to undertake a practical driving assessment every three years. 8 respondents (18.6%) did not support the proposal.
- 3.14 The additional comments made by those who responded to the consultation can be seen within **Appendix 3**. Members will note that some of the comments made by those who indicated they did not support the proposal seem to be at odds with that stated position. This may indicate they did not properly understand the question they were being asked to respond to.
- 3.15 Of the 43 responses received, 33 were from licensed hackney carriage / private hire drivers, 2 were from licensed private hire operators and 8 respondents did not indicate the capacity in which they were responding to the consultation.
- 3.15 Members are now asked to consider the responses received during the consultation and resolve whether or not to amend the Council's current policy on the licensing of drivers of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles (**Appendix 1**) to remove the requirement for individuals licensed to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles to undertake a practical driving assessment every three years.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 None

5. APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 – Current Driver Licensing Policy
- Appendix 2 – Consultation Survey
- Appendix 3 – Summary of Consultation Responses

LICENSING COMMITTEE

29th September 2020

AUTHOR OF REPORT

Name: Dave Etheridge – Senior Practitioner (Licensing)
Worcestershire Regulatory Services

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Tel: (01905) 822799

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL - DRIVER LICENSING POLICY
(REVISED WITH EFFECT 1ST DECEMBER 2017)

**APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND/OR PRIVATE
HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

The Driver's Licence covers the driving of either/both Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles and is valid for one year from the date of grant.

Criteria for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers:

- Applicants must be over 21 years of age;
- Applicants must hold a DVLA driver's licence or an equivalent E.U. member state driving licence;
- Applicants should have at least 2 years driving experience in the relevant class of vehicle in the UK;
- Applicants must have good conversational English
- Applicants for new licences must be free from previous convictions and cautions, other than for minor traffic offences.
- Applicants for any new driver licences must pass the Council's essential skills test.
- Applicants for new hackney carriage driver licences or dual hackney carriage/private hire driver licences, must pass the Council's knowledge test before issue of a licence;
- Applicants for any new driver licences must pass a Driving Assessment test with Worcestershire County Council before issue of a licence;
- Applicants for any new driver licences must undertake a disability awareness training course conducted by Worcestershire County Council or demonstrate to the Council's satisfaction that they have undertaken equivalent disability awareness training (e.g. Level 2 NVQ in Road Passenger Vehicle Driving)
- Applicants should be medically fit to drive hackney carriages or private hire vehicles and shall give proof of their medical fitness by completing and submitting a medical certificate carried out by a registered medical practitioner authorised by this Council (to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency's Group 2 medical standards). This medical will include a drugs test.

Age 21 – 45 Medical/drugs test on first application

Age 45 – 65 Medical/drugs test every five years

Age 65 plus Medical/drugs test every year

Foreign Nationals and other persons who have lived abroad

If you are a foreign national and/or have lived abroad within the last twenty years for a period of 16 weeks or more then you will be required to produce a document from the relevant Government or Embassy of your country of origin, or last place of residence if more appropriate, which provides a comprehensive criminal record. This document must provide contact details for the Embassy or Government, in order that Officers can validate its authenticity.

Any relevant offences will be put before the Council's Licensing Committee so that they can make an informed decision as to the suitability of the applicant.

Although the Council does not employ drivers who are the recipients of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licences it is recommended, in the Department for Transport Best Practice Guidance, to establish that an applicant has the right to work as part of the determination of whether an applicant is a 'fit and proper' person to hold a licence. Consequently you will be required to prove your right to work in the UK. This can be done by submitting a National Insurance Number and Customs and Revenue Code numbers.

Those who do not meet the criteria

Under taxi licensing legislation, the Council has to ensure that anyone holding a licence is a 'fit and proper person'.

Where there is any doubt as to whether the applicant is a 'fit and proper' person, for instance because the DBS or DVLA checks have shown the applicant has criminal or motoring convictions, the Licensing Team may not have the authority to grant or renew an application.

In these circumstances a report will be compiled by the Licensing Officer outlining the details and presented to the Committee.

Applicants are entitled to attend the meeting to explain the circumstances of their conviction (or other reason for referral) and speak in support of their application. They are entitled to be accompanied by a representative (who may be either legally qualified or a 'lay' representative).

In respect of criminal convictions, the Committee will have regard to the supplemental guidelines relating to the relevance of convictions.

Renewal of a Driver's Licence

A licence holder must apply for renewal of their licence whilst the existing one is still in force.

A reminder letter will usually be sent to the licence holder approximately 4-6 weeks before the current licence expires. If the renewal application is received more than 14 days after the expiry of the previous licence it will be treated as a new application.

When renewing a licence the applicant must submit the completed renewal application form, to the One Stop Shop, or by post to the address shown at the front of this handbook, together with the following supporting documentation:

- Application form for Disclosure and Barring Service check (where applicable);
- Medical report/drugs test (where applicable);
- DVLA licence showing current address;
- DVLA mandate;
- Licence fee;
- Two passport sized photographs.

With effect from 1st July 2014 a driver licence holder applying to renew their licence must have undertaken a disability awareness training course conducted by Worcestershire County Council or demonstrate to the Council's satisfaction that they have undertaken equivalent disability awareness training (e.g. Level 2 NVQ in Road Passenger Vehicle Driving).

With effect from 1st December 2017, holders of driver licences must undertake refresher training in disability awareness and must pass a Driving Assessment test with Worcestershire County Council at least every three years.

Applicants for renewal of licences must be free from new convictions since the date of the grant of their last licence, other than minor traffic offences.

If the DBS or DVLA checks do not arrive prior to the expiry of the existing licence, drivers will be permitted to carry on driving hackney carriage and private hire vehicles, providing their application was received prior to the expiry date of the existing licence.

If the DBS disclosure reveals a conviction/s not disclosed by the licence holder, then the licence holder will be referred to the Committee for a decision as to whether their licence should be suspended or revoked.

If a licence holder is going on an extended holiday, they may apply for a renewal before they go, or give someone else written permission to renew their licence on their behalf.

Issue of Licence

An application will only be granted, and the licence issued, once the application has been properly completed and approved.



www.redditchbc.gov.uk



**Consultation on Removing the Requirement for
Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers to Undertake
a Practical Driving Assessment Every Three Years**

February 2020

BACKGROUND

In December 2017, Redditch Borough Council made a number of changes to their policies on the licensing of drivers of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles.

One of these changes introduced a requirement that required those granted a licence to drive hackney carriage and / or private hire vehicles to undertake a practical driving assessment at least every three years.

Concerns have been repeatedly raised by licence holders and their representatives that this is a disproportionate and unjustifiable requirement that serves little practical purpose. Members of the Council's Licensing Committee has considered these concerns at length and has now decided to carry out consultation on whether they should remove the requirement from their policies.

For the sake of clarity, if the requirement was removed, a practical driving assessment will still need to be undertaken by any person applying to the Council for a licence for the first time. The Council would also reserve the right to require an individual licensed driver to undertake a practical driving assessment at any time should legitimate concerns be raised about the standard of their driving.

Responses to this consultation can be emailed to enquiries@worcsregservices.gov.uk using the subject line "Redditch Taxi Driving Assessment Consultation"

Responses can also be submitted via the post to:

Redditch Taxi Driving Assessment Consultation
Worcestershire Regulatory Services
Wyre Forest House
Finepoint Way
Kidderminster
Worcestershire
DY11 7WF

The consultation will be open for responses until **20th March 2020**. All responses received during the consultation period will be considered by the Licensing Committee before any decisions are taken about whether to remove the requirement from the Council's policies

THE CONSULTATION QUESTION

Redditch Borough Council is considering **removing** the following requirement from its policy on the licensing of **hackney carriage and private hire drivers**:

"With effect from 1st December 2017, holders of driver licences must pass a Driving Assessment test with Worcestershire County Council at least every three years."

Instead licence holders will only have to undertake a driving assessment before they first become licensed or when a Licensing Sub-Committee resolves that an individual driver needs to undertake further assessment following receipt of relevant and verifiable complaints about the standard of their driving.

Do you agree with this proposal?

YES ☐

NO ☐

Please provide reasons for your answer above.

In what capacity are you responding to this consultation?			
Licensed Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver		Licensed Private Hire Operator	
Member of the Public		Elected representative	
Other (please specify)			

Responses to this consultation can be emailed to enquiries@worcsregservices.gov.uk using the subject line "Redditch Taxi Driving Assessment Consultation"

Responses can also be submitted via the post to:

Redditch Taxi Driving Assessment Consultation
 Worcestershire Regulatory Services
 Wyre Forest House
 Finepoint Way
 Kidderminster
 Worcestershire
 DY11 7WF

The consultation will be open for responses until **20th March 2020**. All responses received during the consultation period will be considered by the Licensing Committee before any decisions are taken about whether to remove the requirement from the Council's policies

Appendix 3 – Summary of Consultation Responses Received

Redditch Borough Council is considering **removing** the following requirement from its policy on the licensing of **hackney carriage and private hire drivers**:

“With effect from 1st December 2017, holders of driver licences must pass a Driving Assessment test with Worcestershire County Council at least every three years.”

Instead licence holders will only have to undertake a driving assessment before they first become licensed or when a Licensing Sub-Committee resolves that an individual driver needs to undertake further assessment following receipt of relevant and verifiable complaints about the standard of their driving.

Do you agree with this proposal?

YES	35	NO	8
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In what capacity are you responding to this consultation?

Licensed Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver	33	Licensed Private Hire Operator	2
Member of the Public	0	Elected representative	0
Other (please specify)	0	Did not answer	8

Comments received from those answering YES to the main consultation question above:

I feel this is a fair proposal. I agree that if there is a complaint about a certain individual then they should be investigated and carry out the assessment in order to maintain the Council's standards. The good drivers should not be penalised

There are few comments but I just say that the driver increases its experience on the road with every drive and he gets more knowledge

I think there is no need to test a driver who is already got UK licence. Because as pilots who fly more hours are considered best pilots so are the drivers.

I agree new drivers need a comprehensive drivers test. Anyone who fail to drive beyond the licence requirements should be made to do their test again.

For new drivers assessments should be done, however for more experienced drivers it shouldn't be permissible.

For new drivers assessments should be done, however for more experienced drivers it shouldn't be permissible.

I am happy with the decision be made. I insist new drivers must have harder test.

Its fair that good drivers shouldn't have to do assessment test because of there experience and good driving. New drivers and drivers with complaints should take test

Because I'm professional driver I been driving for 10 years now no complaints in taxis about my driving.

After being an experienced driver for 20 years, I believe this is an inequitable requirement which serves no sole purpose. This driving assessment should only be a necessity when drivers are primitively applying for their licence. Experienced drivers evidently obtain the knowledge required, this should not be doubted/judged. Therefore I plea against this statement/view.

I believe this is an unjustifiable requirement that is time consuming and serves no clear purpose. Licensed drivers should only have to carry out the driving assessment test when initially applying for their licence.

I think there is no need to test a driver who does not have a medical condition and which is already in rules so.

I think Redditch drivers have good record for safe driving and I don't see any need to go for driving test after every three years when his driving is ok.

Any driver breaking the law must be made to do an assessment. New drivers should be made to do the test, I think a lot of them need to take lessons again.

New drivers especially private hire drivers need a thorough and stricter driving assessment.

As a seasoned driver of over 30 years, I take great care as many drivers do in my job making sure customers have a pleasurable experience when travelling with us. Any driver caught breaking the law I believe should take a retest. New drivers must take a full assessment as I find they seem to get their licence very easy and their driving sometimes God help all on the road.

Policy is excessive and no one in the country has such an excessive policy

I think there is no need for it. Its unnecessary for experienced drivers.

I agree with RBC removing the 3 years driving assessment test because I have been a licence holder for around 15 years now and never had a complaint from a passenger regarding my driving. There's no need of it really, only the drivers with complaints should take the test, majority of drivers are experienced.

I don't agree with the 3 year driving test. I am a safe driver. Customer safety comes first.

Costly and time consuming

I agree with the new proposal

We feel as taxi drivers we need to go through vigorous checks and feel that this is unnecessary for new drivers this is acceptable but feel drivers that have been driving for years and are safe drivers don't feel that this is needed.

I have been driving for 20 years (taxi)

If they have passed it first time, there is no need to do it again. Instead courses could be held in place to have more practise

This requirement should be remove as it can be hard for some taxi drivers to pass the exam again and it could be a matter of their future if they don't pass the exam. The could be made redundant. I can be a passion for them to have this job.

Should be removed. No need to have a test every three years. We take safety of the road and passengers very seriously. As the years pass we only get more experienced. "Instead licence holders will only have..." Agree with this statement. Thank you for considering amendments needed within the taxi trade and making necessary changes for drivers. We feel our voices are heard with changing environment and challenges (financially, environmentally)

I believe and I think it is fair that new drivers and drivers who have driving complaints to take an assessment

I do not think a driving assessment test every three years is necessary

I agree with the proposal above as it makes sense to retest only as a result of a complaint if requested and at the discretion of the Licensing Committee. It is in the drivers own interest that they comply and adhere to the regulations and road safety as they are providing a service to the public and it is their livelihood and peoples lives there are in jeopardy if they do not.

It seems fair

I have been doing taxis for 20 years and never had a complaint about my driving.

Comments received from those answering NO to the main consultation question above:

I have been driving hackney carriage for 30 years and after so many years of experience I have no issue or complaint. I prefer to not participate with the assessment

I don't agree because test was done before already cost too much paying renew badge licence MOT

I do not agree with this proposal as I feel it is unfair on drivers like myself who have been performing this job with no driving convictions. I passed my driving test on 02/12/1974 and started my taxi profession in 1978 - present. I feel that drivers who have had driving convictions should have further driving assessment tests and not drivers like myself with a clean record.

Its unnecessary, especially when every driver has passed their practical driving assessment through DVSA which is a very thorough test set by the Government. I believe it is not really justified and does indeed serve very little purpose. To my knowledge no other Council in the whole of the UK undertakes this type of assessment, it is a waste of time for the Council and driver and also a waste of money

I would like to ask the Redditch Borough Council what practical purposes does this assessment have? Every taxi driver has passed their practical driving test set by the Government. The DVSA practical test is not easy by any means. Every taxi driver has the knowledge and skills required to carry out their job. This assessment is a complete waste of time and money (for both the Council and drivers) and insulting. I really don't see any point of it, in fact it seems very unfair and not justifiable.

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**LICENSING
COMMITTEE****29th September 2020****LICENSING COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21****29th September 2020**

Verbal update WRS (Licensing) response to Covid-19, including summary of decisions taken under delegated authority.

Results of consultation on options for amending the current requirements for applicants and licence holders to demonstrate their medical fitness to drive taxi and private hire vehicles.

Results of consultation on removing the requirement for licensed drivers to undertake a practical driving assessment every three years

9th November 2020

Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Standards

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Age Limits

Review of Hackney Carriage Tariff

Verbal update on engagement with stakeholders in relation to proposals for the creation / amendment of stands for hackney carriages.

To Be Allocated To Suitable Available Dates in 2021

Review of taxi and private hire driver licensing policies in response to statutory guidance to taxi and private hire vehicle licensing authorities on how to use their licensing powers to protect children and vulnerable adults.

Consideration of results of the consultation on livery requirements for licensed vehicles.

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