



**Report of the Licensing and
Food & Safety Manager
General Licensing Committee
14th June 2019**

Review of suitability guidance for applicants and licensees of the hackney carriage and private hire trades

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For Members to consider the introduction of new guidance to assist in determining the suitability of taxi and private hire applicants and licence holders by the City and County of Swansea.

2. Background

- 2.1 Members will be aware, that a report to consider the introduction of new guidance was presented to the General Licensing Committee on 11th January 2019. A copy of the report is attached at Appendix A.
- 2.2 The decision of the Members was that a consultation be undertaken with members of the hackney carriage and private hire trades and other interested parties on the proposal to adopt "Guidance in determining the suitability of applicants and Licensees in the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire trades" and a report detailing the outcome of the consultation is presented to Members for consideration and decision.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 On 28th March 2019 consultation letters were sent to all members of the hackney carriage and private hire trades and other interested parties. The letter advised that a copy of the proposed new Guidance could either be viewed online or available for viewing at the Civic Centre and the responses to either supporting the introduction of the new guidance or not supporting the new guidance, together with any comments in relation to the consultation be made by 23rd April 2019.

4. Result of Consultation

- 4.1 From 1154 letters sent, 13 replies were received representing approximately 1.13% of the trade. Of the 13 replies, 11 supported the introduction of the new guidance, 1 supported the introduction to the new guidance commenting “to ask the normal working man to have to read all this documentation isn’t acceptable surely a common break down of all the major points would give us an easier read” and 1 did not support the introduction of the new guidance.

5. Conclusion and Proposal

- 5.1 In view of the results of the consultation, it is proposed that Members consider the introduction of the new guidance.
- 5.2 In order for the preparation to be undertaken by officers, it is proposed that Members consider the implementation of the new guidance from 1st August 2019.
- 5.3 Officers will ensure, if approved, that the application packs, website and information is updated in readiness for any application received on and after 1st August 2019 will be subject to the new guidance.
- 5.4 Any disciplinaries of existing licence holders will also be subject of the new guidance, if approved, on and after 1st August 2019.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 It is recommended that after careful consideration:
- i) Members approve the introduction of the new “Guidance on determining the suitability of applicants and licensees in the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Trades” to take effect from 1st August 2019;

or

 - ii) Members refuse to introduce the new “Guidance on determining the suitability of applicants and licensees in the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Trades” giving reasons for the refusal.

The Licensing Committee’s instructions are requested.

Background Papers: Licence Application
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