

LICENSING COMMITTEE - 24 NOVEMBER 2010

Supplementary Report - Agenda Item 4 – Consideration of the introduction of a Cab Safety Rating Scheme

Members are asked to consider the following information before recommending either the continued development or suspension of the cab safety rating scheme.

Public Consultation

55 members of the public were asked questions relating to the standard of licensed vehicles within North West Leicestershire and the value of the proposed cab safety rating scheme. The following statements summarise the outcomes of the survey:

28 of the 55 people questioned (51%) do use or have used licensed taxis in North West Leicestershire

Of the 55 people that use North West Leicestershire taxis, 93% were satisfied with both the condition of the vehicle and conduct of the driver

Of the 55 people surveyed 45 (82%) felt that a licensed vehicle displaying a star rating would inform their decision when choosing which taxi company to use

Of the 55 people surveyed 34 (62%) felt that the introduction of a cab safety rating scheme to be necessary and a good use of Council resources

Enforcement Initiatives

A number of enforcement exercises have been undertaken throughout November. The outcomes of the exercises can be summarised as follows:

During November 15 licensed vehicles were stopped and inspected by Council mechanics and VOSA inspectors.

Of the 15 vehicles inspected 4 achieved the Councils pass standard for licensed private hire and hackney carriage vehicles.

Of the 11 which failed the mechanical examination, 4 received an immediate prohibition from VOSA, 1 received a deferred prohibition from VOSA

Of the 11 vehicles that failed the mechanical examination, 7 require a further mechanical examination once the defects have been rectified. The remaining 4 vehicles with non mechanical defects must be presented to a Licensing Enforcement Officer at the Council offices.