

## Appendix 1 - Proposals considered by Licensing Committee – 5 October 2016

### Proposal 1

It is proposed to amend the medical examination section of the 'fit and proper person' policy by requiring applicants to find a medical practitioner with access to their medical history (notes).

#### Background

NWLDC has adopted the DVLA Group 2 medical standard for all licensed drivers. Applicants are required to find a Doctor who is familiar with the requirements of a Group 2 medical examination. The examining Doctor will complete and sign the examination form. It is common for a medical practitioner to assess the medical fitness of an applicant without any knowledge of their medical history.

### Proposal 2

The current guidance relating to the relevance of convictions is lacking detail in some areas. The additional information provided within the draft policy will assist both applicants, licence holders, licensing officers and elected members. It is proposed to amend the relevance of convictions section of the fit and proper person policy by increasing the level of detail within the policy, providing applicants, licence holders, licensing officers and elected members with more clarity.

Changes include:

- The introduction of four policy aims;
- The term 'fit and proper person' is further explained;
- The introduction of guidance covering outstanding charges or summonses and non-conviction information;
- The definition of 'conviction' has been widened to include warnings, reprimands, anti-social behaviour notices and injunctions;
- To further detail a list of offence types;
- To amend the time periods to be free of conviction

### Proposal 3

The link between taxis and child sexual exploitation (CSE) has been well publicised in recent years, including the Rotherham case and more recently in Lancashire. Currently, holding a knowledge of safeguarding and child sexual exploitation is not a requirement within North West Leicestershire.

It is proposed to amend the fit and proper person policy by introducing a requirement for applicants / drivers to undergo training in safeguarding children and young adults / child sexual exploitation. Drivers will learn about how they can identify signs of CSE and how to report any suspicions.

The proposed training will be delivered in one half day session

All new applicants will be required to undergo the training within 12 months of being licensed. Existing drivers must undergo the training within 12 months of the introduction of this policy. The training courses will be free to attend until 31 December 2017. After this date there will be a charge to cover the costs of running the courses.

#### Proposal 4

On 9 September 2010 Licensing Committee introduced a code of conduct for licensed drivers. The code includes a requirement for drivers to 'pay attention to personal hygiene and dress so as to present a professional image to the public'. The private hire driver licence conditions require a driver to comply with the code of conduct.

The current hackney carriage byelaws do not require a driver to comply with the code of conduct, meaning the dress code cannot be enforced in relation to hackney carriage drivers.

It is proposed to amend the driver code of conduct by:

- further defining the dress code, making it clearer to drivers what is acceptable. The dress code would be defined by a list of clothing items that are acceptable and a list of clothing items that do not present a professional image;
- further detailing correct and incorrect driver behaviours;
- adding the procedure for reporting safeguarding concerns.

#### Proposal 5

To amend the byelaws by adding the following requirement:

- The driver of a hackney carriage shall comply with the NWLDC Code of conduct for hackney carriage and private hire drivers.