

Appendix B: Draft 'Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy'

Key changes 2020

Proposals	Officers comments
<p>Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Online Checking Service.</p>	<p>New and renewal applicants must register their Enhanced DBS certificate with the online checking service. The updated service holds a far greater benefit which is instance access to up-to-date criminal records and barring information relating to licence holders. The authority will not only be able to make annual checks but where there are causes for concern, spot checks.</p> <p>Applicants can only register their certificate with this service within 28 days of the date that their certificate was issued. Evidence of this (unique reference number) MUST be provided to this authority within 7 days of receipt.</p>
<p>National Register of Taxi Licence Refusals and Revocations (NR3)</p>	<p>At the moment, if drivers do not disclose information about a previous revocation or refusal of a licence, there is often no way for a council to find this information out. This means that vital intelligence about an applicant's past behaviour is being missed and an individual might be able to obtain a new licence in another area, despite having their licence taken away elsewhere.</p>
<p>Private Hire Operators – Basic DBS (including overseas convictions) check(s) for all Ancillary staff.</p>	<p>Operators will be required to keep a register of all staff that take bookings or dispatch vehicles. Operators will be required to evidence that they have had sight of a basic DBS check (including overseas) on all individuals listed.</p>

Proposals	Officers comments
<p>Equality Online 'EQUO' online training system for new drivers and ALL existing drivers at the time of renewal.</p> <p>Once passed this does not apply to future renewals:</p> <p>Disability Awareness: Child Sexual Exploitation; and 'County lines' – drug trafficking.</p> <p>There will be a PDF training tutorial available on our website.</p>	<p>Safeguarding awareness is part the current online knowledge test – however its proposed by using the EQUO software system (Safeguarding, Disability Awareness & County lines) this will provide a more consistent and robust mechanism to evaluate drivers' awareness of these key elements.</p> <p>Disability Awareness - training takes between 45-75 minutes depending on the individual.</p> <p>Child Sexual Exploitation - training takes between 20-30 minutes depending on the individual.</p> <p>County Lines awareness training takes between 20-30 minutes depending on the individual.</p>