



*Castle House
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Newark
NG24 1BY*

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www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk

Wednesday, 15 June 2022

**Chairman: Councillor Mrs R Crowe
Vice-Chairman: Councillor I Walker**

Members of the Committee:

**Councillor L Brazier
Councillor Mrs B Brooks
Councillor S Carlton
Councillor M Cope
Councillor P Harris
Councillor R Jackson
Councillor Mrs S Michael**

**Councillor S Saddington
Councillor T Thompson
Councillor K Walker
Councillor R White
Councillor T Wildgust
Councillor Mrs Y Woodhead**

MEETING: General Purposes Committee

DATE: Thursday, 23 June 2022 at 6.00 pm

**VENUE: Castle House, Great North Road, Newark NG24
1BY**

**You are hereby requested to attend the above Meeting to be held at the time/place
and on the date mentioned above for the purpose of transacting the
business on the Agenda as overleaf.**

If you have any queries please contact Helen Brandham on helen.brandham@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk 01636 655248.

AGENDA

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| 1. | Apologies for Absence | |
| 2. | Declarations of Interests from Members and Officers | |
| 3. | Notification to those present that the meeting will be recorded and streamed online | |
| 4. | Minutes of the Meeting Held on 10 March 2022 | 4 - 7 |
| 5. | General Purposes Forward Plan | 8 |

PART 1 - ITEMS FOR DECISION

- | | | |
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| 6. | Review of Ambulance Vehicle Age Policy | 9 - 10 |
| 7. | Kirkgate Taxi Rank | 11 - 13 |
| 8. | Review of PSPO Alcohol Controls in Newark | 14 - 20 |

PART 2 - ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

None

PART 3 - STATISTICAL AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW ITEMS

- | | | |
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| 9. | Update on Performance and Enforcement Matters | 21 - 24 |
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PART 4 - EXEMPT AND CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

None

Agenda Item 4

NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of **General Purposes Committee** held in the Civic Suite, Castle House, Great North Road, Newark NG24 1BY on Thursday, 10 March 2022 at 6.45 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs R Crowe (Chairman)
Councillor R White (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor L Brazier, Councillor Mrs B Brooks, Councillor M Cope,
Councillor P Harris, Councillor R Jackson, Councillor Mrs S Michael,
Councillor S Saddington, Councillor T Thompson, Councillor I Walker,
Councillor T Wildgust and Councillor Mrs Y Woodhead

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor L Goff

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor S Carlton (Committee Member) and Councillor K Walker (Committee Member)

24 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

NOTED that no Member or Officer declared any interest pursuant to any statutory requirement in any matter discussed or voted upon at the meeting.

25 DECLARATION OF ANY INTENTION TO RECORD THE MEETING

The Chairman advised that the proceedings were being recorded by the Council and that the meeting was being livestreamed and broadcast from the Civic Suite, Castle House.

26 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2022

AGREED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2021 were a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

27 GENERAL PURPOSES FORWARD PLAN (APRIL 2022 TO MARCH 2023)

AGREED that the following items be added to the General Purposes Forward Plan:

- Street Pavement Licences Update
- Review of Taxi Fares
- Attendance at Committee by a Representative of the Gambling Commission
- Livery for Hackney Carriages

28 REVIEW OF THE VEHICLE AGE POLICY FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE & PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager – Public Protection which set out proposed changes to the Council's Vehicle Age Policy in respect of licensed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles.

The current policy was set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report which had been agreed in 2015 with it being noted that a number of representations expressing concern had been received from the taxi trade i.e. shrinkage of the taxi fleet due to the pandemic; increase in cost of second hand vehicles leading to affordability issues of replacing vehicles when they remained in good condition but had passed the Policy's age limit; and the disparity between the Council's Policy and that of the County Council.

In considering the report Members agreed that the Policy appeared not to take account of the durability of modern vehicles and that it should be amended accordingly. Members agreed that the proposed amendments as set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report be further amended to increase the age of the vehicles.

AGREED (unanimously) that the Council's age policy for Hackney Carriage and Private hire Vehicles be amended as follows:

- (a) all vehicles must be under 9 years of age on first registration and not over 15 years of age on renewal;
- (b) vehicles over 6 years of age that fail the licensing vehicle test on structural damage or a major mechanical issue will not be licensed; and
- (c) a purpose built or wheelchair accessible vehicle must be under 9 years of age when first licensed and not over 15 years of age on renewal.

29 REVIEW OF KNOWLEDGE TEST FOR LICENSED DRIVERS

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager – Public Protection which sought Members' approval to implement changes to the Knowledge Test for licensed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers.

The report set out the requirements that an applicant must meet in order for them to be considered as a 'fit and proper' person to be granted a licence, one of which was a knowledge test consisting of 7 different parts, including routes and locations. It was reported that due to the increase in mobile route finders and built in navigation aids, the routes and locations sections were under review.

In considering the report Members agreed that the application process was important to ensure that all applicants were suitable to hold a licence but that the process did not put barriers in place to limit the ability of applications to obtain a licence.

AGREED (unanimously) that the taxi knowledge test be amended to remove the sections relating to routes and locations.

30 TAX CONDITIONALITY CHECKS FOR VARIOUS LICENCE APPLICATIONS

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager – Public Protection which sought Members' approval to implement changes to the licence application processes in line with the requirements of Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs.

It was reported that from 4 April 2022, licensing authorities must carry out certain checks on applications from individuals, companies and any type of partnership to make sure they were aware of their tax responsibilities or had completed a tax check. The applications affected were for the following licences: Hackney Carriage Drivers; Private Hire Drivers; Private Hire Vehicle Operators; Scrap Metal Sites; and Scrap Metal Collector. It was proposed that the Council would continue to publicise the tax check requirements and, where possible, to advise applicants of the changes prior to an application being submitted. Changes would also be made to the application form to include a declaration that the applicant was aware of their tax responsibilities.

AGREED (unanimously) that:

- (a) the changes to the application process for some licences be noted;
- (b) the addition of a declaration, as follows, be approved:

“I confirm that I am aware of the content of HMRC guidance relating to my (our) tax registration obligations”; and

- (c) the above declaration be added to the following licence application forms:

Hackney Carriage Drivers;
Private Hire Drivers;
Private Hire Vehicle Operators;
Scrap Metal Sites; and
Scrap Metal Collector

31 SATISFACTION SURVEYS FOR TAXI USERS AND THE TAXI TRADE

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager – Public Protection which sought to update Members on the completion of the satisfaction surveys that were carried out from customers using taxis within the district and from the taxi trade. It was reported that the purpose of the surveys was to gain an insight into the way which taxies operate and how and why members of the public use their services, the results of which would assist the development of the licensing services in terms of shaping future provision and policies. A full copy of the questions and responses were appended to the report.

In considering the report Members commented on whether additional signage was required at the taxi ranks within Newark to prevent the public parking in them. In response, the Business Manager advised that the County Council had changed the timings of the ranks and additional signage advising of the times had been erected. He also advised that enforcement was contracted out by the County Council.

A Member suggested that the current taxi rank at Kirk Gate be re-designated as a short stay drop-off/pick-up area and it was agreed that this would be further reviewed.

AGREED (unanimously) that:

- (a) the report be noted; and
- (b) further consideration be given to:
 - (i) the possible re-designation of the Kirk Gate rank
 - (ii) what additional enforcement measures could be taken in relation to the existing taxi ranks within the district; and
 - (iii) possible livery for hackney carriage taxis.

32 UPDATE ON PERFORMANCE AND ENFORCEMENT MATTERS

The Committee considered the report presented by the Business Manager – Public Protection into the activity and performance of the Licensing Team which included details of current ongoing enforcement issues.

Information contained within the report related to the number of applications for grants and renewals of licences for Hackney Carriage; Private Hire; and Ambulance Drivers together with those for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles. A note of ongoing enforcement activity was also listed with information as to what action had been taken to-date.

AGREED (unanimously) that the report be noted.

33 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That, under section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1, of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

34 MINUTES OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S SUB-COMMITTEE (21.12.21)

AGREED (unanimously) that the exempt Minutes of the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Sub-Committee held on 21 December 2021 be noted.

35 MINUTES OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS SUB-COMMITTEE (03.02.22)

AGREED (unanimously) that the exempt Minutes of the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Sub-Committee held on 3 February 2022 be noted.

Meeting closed at 7.23 pm.

Forward Plan of the General Purposes Committee Decisions from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

This document records some of the items that will be submitted to the General Purposes Committee over the course of the next twelve months.

These committee meetings are open to the press and public.

Agenda papers for General Purposes Committee meetings are published on the Council's website 5 days before the meeting <http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/agendas/>. Any items marked confidential or exempt will not be available for public inspection.

Meeting Date	Subject for Decision and Brief Description	Contact Officer Details
15.09.22	Street Pavement Licences Update	alan.batty@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk
15.09.22	Review of Taxi Fares	alan.batty@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk
15.09.22	Attendance at Committee by a Representatives of the Gambling Commission	alan.batty@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk
15.09.22	Livery for Hackney Carriages	alan.batty@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk



Report to: General Purposes Committee Meeting – 23 June 2022
 Director Lead: Matthew Finch, Director – Communities & Environment
 Lead Officer: Alan Batty, Business Manager – Public Protection, Extn. 5467

Report Summary	
Reason for Report	For Members to consider changes to the Council’s vehicle age policy in respect of licensed Private Hire Ambulance Vehicles.
Report Title	Review of the Vehicle Age Policy for Private Hire Ambulance Vehicles
Purpose of Report	For Members to consider whether the age policy for Private Hire Ambulance Vehicles should be amended in line with the vehicle age policy for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles.
Recommendations	<p>That all vehicles must be under 9 years of age on first registration and not over 15 years of age on renewal.</p> <p>That vehicles over 6 years of age that fail the licensing vehicle test on structural damage of major mechanical issue will not be licensed.</p> <p>That a purpose built wheelchair accessible vehicle must be under 9 years of age when first licensed and not over 15 years of age on renewal.</p>

1.0 Background

1.1 The Council’s Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy sets out the specification that vehicles must meet in order to be considered for licensing. One of the criteria relates to the age of the vehicles. The policy has always sought to strike a balance between the cost to the drivers of replacing vehicle and that have having modern taxi fleet to service the needs of taxi using population of Newark & Sherwood.

1.2 The vehicle age policy for private hire ambulance vehicles was last considered by committee in 2016. The policy agreed at that time was:

4.5.2 Vehicles operating as private ambulances only must be under seven years of age when first licensed and not over 12 years of age on renewal.

- 1.3 Representations have been received from the two Private Hire Ambulance operators registered within Newark & Sherwood expressing concern over the current policy. The concerns are twofold. Firstly, the cost of second hand vehicles has increased over the past two years and this is causing concern as to the affordability of replacing vehicles when they remain in good condition but have passed the age limit of our policy.
- 1.4 Secondly, at the last General Purposes meeting in March 2022, members agreed that the Council's age policy for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles be amended to allow vehicles to be licensed for a longer period of time.

2.0 Proposal/Options Considered and Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 There are compelling reasons why the age policy should be reviewed based on the current second hand vehicle market, the challenges to the private hire ambulance trade and the general improvement in vehicle quality.
- 2.2 It is proposed that the age policy for Private Hire Ambulance Vehicles should be amended in line with vehicle age policy for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles the as set out below.
- (a) all vehicles must be under 9 years of age on first registration and not over 15 years of age on renewal;
 - (b) vehicles over 6 years of age that fail the licensing vehicle test on structural damage of major mechanical issue will not be licensed; and
 - (c) a purposed built of wheelchair assessable vehicle must be under 9 years of age when first licensed and not over 15 years of age on renewal.

3.0 Implications

No implications have been identified.

Background Papers and Published Documents

NSDC Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy



Report to: **General Purposes Committee Meeting – 23 June 2022**
 Director Lead: **Matthew Finch, Director – Communities & Environment**
 Lead Officer: **Alan Batty, Business Manager – Public Protection, Extn. 5467**

Report Summary	
Reason for Report	For Members to consider a proposal to remove the taxi rank on Kirkgate, Newark.
Report Title	Taxi Rank Provision on Kirkgate, Newark
Purpose of Report	For Members to consider whether to amend or remove the taxi rank on Kirkgate, prior to which the Council is required to consult on any proposal.
Recommendations	<p>That Members consider whether the taxi rank on Kirkgate, Newark should be amended/removed.</p> <p>That Members endorse a consultation exercise be undertaken to seek views on any amendments.</p> <p>That a report setting out the results of the consultation be reported back to the committee prior to any final decision.</p>

1.0 Background

1.1 There are two taxi ranks operating within Newark Town centre. These are set out in the table below.

Middlegate (junction with Stodman Street)	7 spaces	24 hours
Kirkgate (outside Violin School)	4 spaces	08:00 to 18:00
Castle Gate	3 spaces	18:00 to 06:00

1.2 The rank on Middlegate is a rank serving both day time town centre users and night time users. The Castlegate rank serves the evening economy and the Kirkgate rank designed to support town centre day time users.

- 1.3 During the early months of the pandemic a number of temporary traffic regulations were introduced. This resulted in the closure of Middlegate and as a result some parking areas were no longer available. To compensate the Kirkgate taxi rank. The taxi rank designation was amended so that the space became a temporary parking space with limited waiting.
- 1.4 Councillor Mrs Saddington has been approached by a local business who is requesting that the change to the rank be made permanent, thus removing the layby as a taxi rank and providing more town centre parking
- 1.5 Members will be aware that a survey of taxi users and the taxi trade was recently undertaken. The taxi trade were asked to list the taxi ranks that they used the most. The table below sets out the responses.

The current NSDC ranks are as below. If you sit on a rank, which do you use on a regular basis?			
Answer Choice		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Middle Gate, Newark	50.0%	28
2	Kirk Gate, Newark	5.4%	3
3	Castle Gate, Newark	39.3%	22
4	Lincoln Street (Railway Station), Newark	26.8%	15
5	Sherwood Drive, Ollerton	8.9%	5
6	I do not use ranks	39.3%	22
		answered	56
		skipped	0

- 1.6 The question of ‘do we need more ranks in the district and where should these be?’ was asked and out of the 56 people that answered 24 said that they did not think there was a need for more taxi ranks, 8 respondents thought there should be more ranks, for example, at Castle Station and Newark Town Centre. 18 people said that there is need for more spaces and enforcement on the existing ranks specifically Castle Gate and Middle Gate.
- 1.7 The Kirkgate rank was specifically mentioned four times in the trade responses. These are copied below.

Kirkgate needs returning to a rank now Covid restrictions have eased.

Think we need a bigger rank in the town centre somewhere as I feel kirkgate does not accommodate enough spaces

No need for ranks, but return Kirkgate rank to a taxi rank and and remove Joe Publics free parking for 30 mins +. Additionally, the continued misuse of Middlegate taxi rank by the private, delivery vehicles continues and occasionally will prevent taxis getting onto the rank. A cctv system taking number plate details floored by a fine may be a preventative measure. Additionally, set down/ pick up points around town rather than ranks would be a massive help such as the bus station and Castle Station.

Kirkgate not been a rank for months, Castle station, bus station, London road car park

1.8 The rank is used but this use is not constant as might be seen at some of the other town centre ranks in Newark. Prior to the temporary traffic controls taxis could usually gain access to the rank and therefore the issue of queuing to gain access is not a road safety concern.

1.9 The removal of the rank would reduce the taxi rank provision in the town centre.

2.0 Proposal/Options Considered and Reasons for Recommendation

2.1 It is within the powers of the Council to amend or remove the taxi rank on Kirkgate. Prior to making any decision the Council is required to consult on any proposals.

2.2 If Members are minded to amend or remove the Kirkgate taxi rank it is proposed that the following consultation be undertaken prior to a further report confirming the decision.

- Letter seeking comments on any changes is sent to all business on Kirkgate and the immediate surrounding area.
- Letter seeking comments on any changes s are sent to all taxis operating in Newark.
- A public consultation is posted on the Council's website.
- The Council's Director - Planning & Growth be asked for their views so that the impact on any Newark town centre master plan can be considered.
- Consultation with the County Council as the Highways authority.

3.0 Implications

There are considered to be no implications arising from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Taxi Provision Consultation Survey 2022 NSDC



Report to: **Licensing Committee Meeting – 23 June 2022**

Director Lead: **Matthew Finch, Director – Communities & Environment**

Lead Officer: **Alan Batty, Business Manager – Public Protection, Extn. 5467**

Report Summary	
Reason for Report	To have appropriate controls in place to limit antisocial behaviour from consuming alcohol in public places
Report Title	Review of controls for drinking in public places in Newark
Purpose of Report	To review the current Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to control the drinking of alcohol in public places in Newark and seeks to consider renewing the PSPO for a further three years.
Recommendations	<p>Members confirm the renewal the Public Space Protection Order for drinking alcohol in public spaces for a further three years.</p> <p>The terms of the PSPO are:</p> <p>An authorised officer of the council or police may ask a person who:</p> <p>Is consuming or appears to be consuming alcohol in an area covered by the PSPO and that person is causing or is likely to cause anti-social behaviour:</p> <p>To</p> <p>Cease drinking the alcohol and dispose of the alcohol, or surrender the alcohol to the officer, or immediately leave the area covered by the PSPO.</p> <p>That the fixed penalty level for all Public Space Protection Orders is set at £100.00 reduced to £75.00 if made within 14 days.</p>

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In June 2019 committee approved the making of a revised PSPO for alcohol control covering Newark Town Centre. It also approved the recommendation that the previous alcohol control areas originally declared as Designated Public Place Orders (DPPO's) were reviewed. The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, requires that both the geographical area and nature of the control pertaining to each PSPO be reviewed at least every 3 years, to ensure that the restrictions that it imposes are necessary and proportionate to the levels of ASB affecting the location to which they apply.
- 1.2 The PSPO requires that any person who is drinking alcohol and is causing or likely to cause a nuisance or antisocial behaviour, must at an authorised officer's request:
 - Leave the area covered by the PSPO or
 - Hand over any open alcohol containers or throw away any alcohol containers or
 - Stop drinking at that time within the declared area.
- 1.3 Failure to do so is an offense for which a Fixed Penalty Notice of £75.00 will be issued, non-payment can result in a fine of up to £1,000 on successful prosecution.
- 1.4 A map showing the extent of the area of Newark currently covered by the PSPO is attached as **Appendix 1**.

2.0 Proposal/Options Considered and Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 The review, has been carried out in accordance with Government Guidance and has considered if the geographical area and specific controls enforced under the PSPO are still necessary and appropriate based on a review of the evidence of existing and likely ASB. PSPO's cannot be used as a pre-emptive control.
- 2.2 Evidence has been sought from Nottinghamshire police, Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood Community Safety Partnership's ASB Assessments and Performance Report, and a review of calls for service from the Public Protections Team. Detailed conversations have taken place with Inspector Matt Ward Newark and Sherwood District Commander, who supports the further time extension of the PSPO.
- 2.3 During the past three years there have been 29 reports of street drinking related antisocial behaviour reported to the council. In addition to this the police have recorded 164 street drinking related incidents in the same period. A breakdown of the NSDC reported incidents are attached as **Appendix 2**.
- 2.4 The PSPO controls currently in place have been used by the council to seize alcohol, and to remove people from certain 'hot spot' areas associated with street drinking. A range of enforcement actions have been taken to enforce the terms of the PSPO. These are included within appendix 2.
- 2.5 As a result of this review the following options have been considered:

The location and type of alcohol related ASB remains the same and the terms of the PSPO should remain in force.

The location or nature of the ASB has changed and the terms of the PSPO should be revised to reflect this change.

ASB no longer exists and the PSPO should be revoked.

- 2.6 Having considered the options above it is proposed that the terms of the PSPO should remain in force and be reconfirmed for a further three years. This would be the maximum extension of the PSPO the law permits and, after a further 3 years the council would have to make a new PSPO following further consultation on a wider scale.
- 2.7 The geographical areas covered by the PSPO has also been reviewed and it is considered appropriate to leave this unchanged. The location remains one where alcohol related ASB persists, as shown by the police and council data but that the measures available under the PSPO mitigate the problem by allowing incidents to be dealt with as they occur and an element of deterrent in the form of fixed penalty notices.
- 2.8 The renewing of the PSPO will support the following Community Plan objective.

Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, and increase feelings of safety in our communities: The proposed control will provide an enforcement tool to control drink related ASB.

3.0 Implications

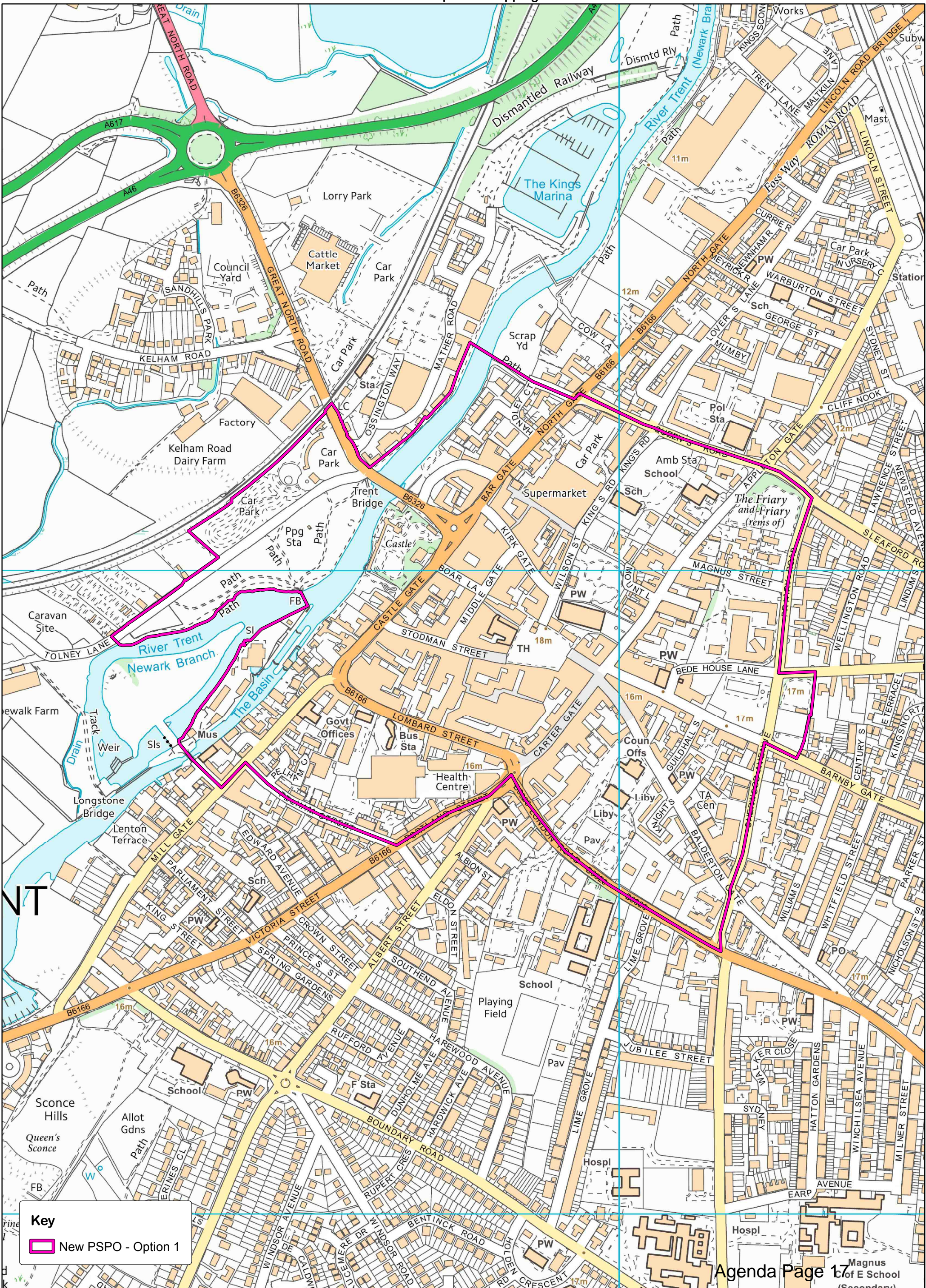
- 3.1 In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations officers have considered the following implications; Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding and Sustainability.

Equality and Diversity - To ensure support is in place any individual who presents as being vulnerable, or who has previously been referred to the Vulnerable Persons Panel will be discussed at a case conference chaired by the Business Manager or Assistant Business Manager Public Protection, to establish the best course of action in both the interest of the public and in the interest of the individual concerned.

Financial Implications – there will be cost in advertising the renewal of the PSPO. This will be met from the existing Public Protection budget.

Background Papers and Published Documents

The Antisocial Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014



Newark & Sherwood District Council Complaints 07/11/2019 – 25/05/2022

Newark Town Centre – Alcohol related ASB

	Date Reported	Reporter	Incident Location	Issue Reported
1	09.11.2019	CPO	Newark town centre/Church Gardens	XXXXX street drinking
2	09.12.2019	Police/Other	Newark town centre	XXXXXXX alcohol related nuisance
3	16.12.2019	Complex Needs Worker	Newark town centre – various	XXXXXXXXX regularly street drinking in various locations around Newark town centre
4	20.12.2019	CPO	Newark town centre – various locations	XXXXXXXXX street drinking
5	15.06.2020	CPOS/Police	Church Gardens	The group consisted of XXXXXXXX– street drinking/abusive towards CPO/ASB nuisance
6	13.08.2020	CPOs	Library Gardens/Beaumont Cross	XXXXXX street drinking
7	17.06.2020	Resident	Riverside, near Aldi	Drinkers regularly congregating on benches and drinking/urinating
8	26.08.2020	Resident	Street drinkers congregating near Trent Side/opposite The Wharf	Group identified by CPOs and police. Just on fringe of PSPO area
9	23.10.2020	CPO	Library Gardens	XXXXXXX – no alcohol seen but smelt of alcohol
10	23.11.2020	Barnby Gate Church	Barnby Gate Church	Groups congregating, drinking, urinating, rough sleeping, intimidating staff and visitors (*1 enforcement)
11	17.04.2021	CPO	Library Gardens	3 unknown males drinking alcohol. 1 male threatening and assault CPO (violent incident report completed). Unidentified males.
12	21.04.2021	Library Gardens	Library Gardens	Groups regularly congregating drinking/drug use Re-deployable CCTV installed to cover Gardens
13	29.4.2021	Resident	Church Gardens	Groups regularly congregating early mornings drinking alcohol and urinating in the gardens.
14	15.06.2021	Barnby Gate Church	Barnby Gate Church	Groups regularly congregating, street drinking, urinating, defecating, intimidating to visitors, Church members and staff (*2 enforcement)

15	17.06.2021	CPO	Church Gardens	There are a regular group of Eastern Europeans that congregate in St Marys Gardens.
16	17.06.2021	Resident	Church Gardens	Group of adults congregating in the gardens early morning drinking alcohol and shouting.
17	15.07.2021	Via Comms – Advertiser request for comment	Library/Beaumont Gardens	The groundskeeper is becoming increasingly unhappy with the abuse he receives on a daily basis. He has had beer cans thrown at him, he has been verbally abused and has made several attempts to move alcoholics off the site in the past. He has also said that he has witnessed people urinating in the gardens in front of families who walk past. He says he has contacted the police about the matter before but has received no to little response.”
18	18.07.2021	Resident	Church Gardens	Groups of adults sitting on the path between the Church and gardens, drinking alcohol making it in accessible for adults and children wishing to attend Church at varying times of the day & early evenings.
19	27.07.2021	Resident via MP	Church Gardens	Groups of adults regularly congregating in the gardens, drinking alcohol, drug use and being rowdy.
20	27.07.2021	Resident via MP	Church Gardens	Groups of adults congregating regularly in the gardens, drinking alcohol, leaving rubbish, fighting with each other and being intimidating to members of the public.
21	28.09.2021	CPO	Church Gardens	XXXXXX in drink with an open vessel and also abusive. 2 occasions in 1 day.
22	15.10.2021	Resident	Church Gardens	Groups of adults still congregating in the gardens around 7am in a morning and then return around 3pm – drinking alcohol and urinating and defecating in the area.
23	02.11.2022	Resident	Church Gardens	Loud music and drinking in the Church Gardens
24	05.11.2021	Newark Castle Staff	Newark Castle grounds	3 x street drinkers causing nuisance and being intimidating towards staff (XXXX identified by PCSO Rodda).
25	25.01.2022	Barnby Gate Church	Barnby Gate Church	Male rough sleeping, drinking, urinating and defecating – attracting other street drinkers (*3 enforcement)
26	21.03.2022	Resident	Appletongate / Church Gardens	Groups of males congregating in the area – drinking alcohol, being rowdy and intimidating caller.

27	18.04.2022	Resident	Church Gardens	Loud music, people drinking
28	03.05.2022	Resident	Church Gardens	Group of 6 people, drinking alcohol and playing loud music
29	07.05.2022	CPO	Sherwood Avenue Park	Groups of male congregating drinking in the park. On 07.05.2022 no alcohol mentioned but male urinating in bushes – a known street drinker

Alcohol Related/street drinking Enforcement Action – Newark Town Centre

20.12.2019	XXXXXXX	Warning Letter ref. street drinking/associated ASB
01.09.2020	XXXXXXX	Warning letter ref. persistent street drinking and associated ASB
01.11.2020	XXXXXXX	Community Protection Warning – rough sleeping/drinking/urinating/defecating – Barnby Gate Church *1
20.07.2021	XXXXXXX	Community Protection Warning – rough sleeping/drinking/urinating/defecating – Barnby Gate Church *2 Issued with a PSPO letter and map
20.07.2021	XXXXXXX	Issued with a warning letter and advised about street drinking along with PSPO letter & map
20.07.2021	XXXXXXX	Issued with a PSPO letter and map
20.07.2021	XXXXXXX	Warning letter ref alcohol related ASB in Library Gardens. Issued PSPO letter and map
20.07.2021	XXXXXXX	Warning letter ref alcohol related ASB at Barnby Gate Church. Issued PSPO letter and map
20.07.2021	XXXXXXX	Issued with a PSPO letter and map
30.01.2022	XXXXXXX	Community Protection Warning - rough sleeping/drinking/urinating/defecating – Barnby Gate Church *3



Report to: General Purposes Committee Meeting – 23 June 2022
 Business Manager Lead: Alan Batty – Public Protection
 Lead Officer: Nicola Rowlands, Senior Licensing Officer, extn. 5894

Report Summary	
Reason for Report	To inform the Committee of the activity and performance of the Licensing Team and to provide Members with details of current ongoing enforcement issues.
Report Title	Update on Performance and Enforcement Matters
Purpose of Report	To provide Members of the Committee with details of the various activities undertaken by the Licensing Team in relation to Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers, Private Hire Ambulance Drivers together with House to House and Street Collections.
Recommendations	That the report be noted.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 A new applicant for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers or Private Ambulance Drivers Licence have to undergo various checks. These include a: Disclosure and Barring check; DVLA check; two references are required; Group II medical; and knowledge & ability tests.
- 1.2 This report covers the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 March 2022 inclusive and sets out the range and number of licence applications during this period. It also highlights any activity required as a result of the applications.

Application Type	New Applications Rec'd	Renewal of Applications Rec'd	Number Issued	Comments
Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver	3	15	18	
Ambulance Drivers	6	8	14	
Hackney Carriage Vehicles	3	21	24	
Private Hire Vehicles	3	6	9	
Private Ambulance Vehicle Licence	2	70	72	

Street Collections

- 1.3 The Licensing authority has not received any applications for street collections for the reporting period of 1 January to 31 March 2022.

House to House Collections

- 1.4 The table over sets out the numbers of collections undertaken within the reporting period of 1 January to 31 March 2022 and the charities supported. The organisations undertaking the collections are required to complete a return that sets out the 80 % of the collection that is returned to the charity.

Charity	Date	Total Amount Collected	% Returned to Charity
Children with Cancer UK	18.01.22	£56.16	85%
World Cancer Care	01.01.22 to 31.03.22	£260.00	100%

Enforcement Issues

- 1.5 **Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Ongoing Enforcement Activity between 1 January to 31 March 2022**

Location	Activity	Date Case Opened	Action Taken So Far
Newark	Hackney Carriage vehicle seen with rear plate displayed incorrectly.	17.01.22	LEO spoke to the driver who said he would correct this as soon as possible.
Middle Gate, Newark	Routine inspection of Hackney Carriage	19.01.22	All in order
Newark	Complaint of overcharging	21.01.22	DG Cars charged a customer more than the standard price. LEO spoke to the complainant and gave advice.
Edwinstowe	A taxi company had 2 cars fail either inspections in a week.	27.01.22	LEO visited the company owner and gave strong advice regarding the condition of vehicles.
Beast Market Hill, Newark	Hackney Carriage vehicle seen without rear plate displayed.	02.02.22	LEO spoke to the driver who stated that the plate has been knocked off during a car wash but is now displayed correctly.
Northgate Railway Station, Newark	Private Hire vehicle seen with internal plate displayed incorrectly	08.02.22	LEO inspected the vehicle and got the driver to display the plates correctly.

Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 PH	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 PH	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 PH	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 PH	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	1 action, LEO followed up and all in order.
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	08.02.22	All in order
Northgate Railway Station, Newark	Peterborough-licenced Hackney Carriage reportedly working as a taxi in Newark.	09.02.22	Peterborough City Council provided driver details for the vehicle in question. LEO spoke to the driver who provided details of bookings, corroborated by his company, which showed that he was working lawfully at the time of the allegation.
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	23.02.22	1 fault found, LEO followed up and action completed.
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	23.02.22	1 fault found, LEO followed up and action completed.
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	23.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 PH	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	3 faults found. LEO followed up and all actions completed.

Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	28.02.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 PH	28.02.22	1 fault found. LEO followed up and all actions completed.
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 PH	28.02.22	All in order
Northgate Railway Station, Newark	Fare refused	04.03.22	LEO spoke to the driver and advised him. LEO spoke to the complainant who was happy with the action taken.
Northgate Railway Station, Newark	Taxi driver refused to give a receipt for fare	10.03.22	LEO spoke to the driver and advised him. LEO spoke to the complainant who was happy with the action taken.
Newark	Hackney Carriage vehicle seen with rear plate displayed incorrectly	14.03.22	This driver has previously been advised about the same issue. LEO requested the driver to present his vehicle at Castle House with the plate correctly fitted, which he did.
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	25.03.22	4 faults found, all rectified the same day
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	25.03.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	25.03.22	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	25.03.2022	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	25.03.2022	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 HC	25.03.2022	All in order
Castle House	Vehicle inspection x1 PH	25.03.2022	All in order

2.0 Proposal/Options Considered and Reasons for Recommendation

This report is intended to provide Members with a summary of the various activities undertaken by the Licensing Team in relation to Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers, Private Hire Ambulance Drivers together with House to House and Street Collections.

3.0 Implications

There are no implications arising from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

None