

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Licensing Committee
DATE	26 October 2021
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Taxi and Private Hire Policy Review
REPORT NUMBER	COM/21/258
CHIEF OFFICER	Fraser Bell
REPORT AUTHOR	Sandy Munro
TERMS OF REFERENCE	17

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with the amended policies for taxis and private hire for final approval.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 agree the highlighted amendments to policy at 5.3.4, 5.3.7, 5.3.8, 5.4.2 and 5.4.3 in Appendix 1;
- 2.2 agree an implementation date of 1 April 2022 for all amendments with the exception of 5.3.8; and
- 2.3 agree to defer the implementation of the changes to policy 5.3.8 pending further information about the installation of the necessary infrastructure.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the meeting on 10 November 2020 the Committee instructed the Chief Officer – Governance to consult with the trade and public on the proposed changes to the taxi and private hire policies.
- 3.2 An online consultation was run from 21 January 2021 until 26 February 2021. A link to the consultation document was publicised via social media, sent to all licensed drivers for whom we had an email address and circulated to the Taxi & Private Hire Consultation Group for wider circulation to the trade.

- 3.3 A total of 149 responses were received. These were reported to committee on 18 May 2021 and the highlighted amendments in Appendix 1 approved in principle.
- 3.4 The opportunity has been taken to consolidate all taxi and private hire policies into one document.
- 3.5 Until further information is available with regard the necessary infrastructure to facilitate alternative fuelled vehicles an implementation date for that policy cannot be ascertained.
- 3.6 As some of the policy changes will require fees to be reviewed it would seem appropriate to implement the remaining changes on 1 April 2022 to align with the new financial year and allow accurate budgetary calculations to be made.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Application fees will be reviewed to ensure expenditure is met from licensing income.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Category	Risk	Low(L) Medium(M) High(H)	Mitigation
Strategic Risk	N/A		
Compliance	N/A		
Operational	N/A		
Financial	N/A		
Reputational	Implementing policy changes without providing advance notice could lead to difficulties for licence holders.	L	It is a recommendation of the report to provide notice prior to the changes taking effect.
Environment/ Climate	N/A		

7. OUTCOMES

7.1 The proposals in this report have no direct impact on the Council Delivery Plan.

8. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Impact Assessment	Full impact assessment not required
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A

10. APPENDICES (if applicable)

10.1 Appendix 1 – Consolidated policy document

11. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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