

*PART A

Report to: Licensing Committee
Date of meeting: 9 January 2012
Report of: Head of Environmental Services
Title: Hackney Carriage Vehicle Seating Capacities

1.0 **SUMMARY**

1.1 In July 2010, the Licensing Committee adopted new standard conditions relating to the seating capacities in hackney carriages, specifically smaller MPVs such as Vauxhall Zafiras. Difficulties in applying and interpreting those conditions led to confusion amongst officers, vehicle testing examiners and vehicle owners. Due to the need to provide immediate certainty to licence applicants, the Executive Director Services agreed to amend the conditions pending ratification by the full Licensing Committee.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That the decision of the Executive Director Services of 26 September 2011 be ratified, and that approval be given for the standard condition relating to hackney carriage seating capacities set out in appendix 1 to continue.

Contact Officer:

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Report approved by:

Alan Gough, Head of Environmental Services.

3.0 **DETAILED PROPOSAL**

3.1 The background to this report is set out at appendix 1.

3.2 The Licensing Committee will be aware that following email consultation with Members in September 2011, approval was given for the Executive Director Services to make an executive decision to amend the then-licence conditions. The Committee is now asked to ratify that decision. Officers can confirm that there have been no issues in interpreting this new condition since its' introduction.

4.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 **Financial**

4.1.1 The Head of Strategic Finance comments that there are no financial implications arising from this report.

4.2 **Legal Issues** (Monitoring Officer)

4.2.1 The Head of Legal and Property Services comments that there are no legal implications arising from this report. Drivers who are aggrieved by the conditions placed on their licence have the opportunity to appeal against them to the magistrates' court within 21 days.

4.3 **Potential Risks**

None identified.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Briefing on vehicle seating capacities (26.09.10)

Background Papers

No papers were used in the preparation of this report.

File Reference

HCVL conditions