

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Public Protection Sub-Committee
Date: 24th March 2016
Report for: Decision
Report of: Head of Regulatory Services

Report Title

ALLOCATION OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE

Summary

The Council has previously determined that 143 vehicle licences is the appropriate number to meet the identified demand for hackney carriages in Trafford. A vehicle licence has become available and in order to comply with its current policy the Council must allocate a new hackney carriage vehicle licence.

Options

The Sub-Committee is invited to consider and determine the most appropriate method for allocating the available licence. The Sub-Committee may wish to consider the following options:

- (1) to invite expressions of interest by way of a public notice from persons wishing to apply for a new hackney carriage vehicle licence - see Appendix A;
- (2) that all interested persons be required to complete a points based application form – See Appendix B;
- (3) that the licence be allocated to a person drawn from those applicants receiving the most points;
- (3) that the successful person be required to present a suitable vehicle within 60 days of the receipt of the decision letter; and
- (4) that the successful person be required to sign a declaration agreeing not to transfer the licence in the first three years.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Joanne Boyle
Extension: 4129

Iain Veitch
Head of Regulatory Services

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Under the Transport Act 1985, the Council may limit the number of hackney carriage vehicle licences it issues for Trafford, provided there is no 'significant unmet demand'. The issue of whether or not there is significant unmet demand is determined through a statistical analysis of the results of a survey.
- 1.2 The Council currently restricts the number of Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licences it issues to 143, which is based on previous surveys.
- 1.3 A vehicle licence returns to the Council on the death of the holder or if the holder fails to renew the licence. In November 2015 a hackney carriage vehicle proprietor failed to renew the vehicle licence before the expiry date.
- 1.4 The Council has previously determined that 143 vehicle licences is the appropriate number to meet the identified demand for hackney carriages in Trafford. In order to comply with its current policy the Council must now allocate a new hackney carriage vehicle licence.
- 1.5 The Licensing Section does not maintain a register of interest or waiting list for hackney carriage vehicle licences. Therefore, it is proposed to ask for expressions of interest by way of a public notice in a local newspaper; by advertising on the Council's website and Twitter; and through liaison with operators and trade representatives.
- 1.6 It is proposed that interested persons be required to complete an application form. Points will be awarded based on the applicant's answers to a number of questions.
 - 1.7.1 It is proposed that the successful person be drawn from those receiving the most points.
 - 1.7.2 It is also proposed that any successful applicant must meet the following criteria:
 - The vehicle must be either an LTi, Mercedes Vito Taxi or Peugeot E7 Taxi.
 - The vehicle must be presented for licensing within 60 days of the date the licence is allocated.
 - Within the first three years the vehicle licence may not be transferred.

2.0 Options

- 2.1 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider and determine the most appropriate method for allocating the available licence. The Sub-Committee may wish to consider the following options:
 - 2.1.1 to invite expressions of interest by way of a public notice from persons wishing to apply for a new hackney carriage vehicle licence - see Appendix A;

- 2.1.2 that all interested persons be required to complete a points based application form – See Appendix B;
- 2.1.3 that the licence be allocated to a person drawn from those applicants receiving the most points;
- 2.1.4 that the successful person be required to present a suitable vehicle within 60 days of the receipt of the decision letter; and
- 2.1.5 that the successful person be required to sign a declaration agreeing not to transfer the licence within the first three years.