

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Registration and Licensing Committee

19th December 2016

Report of the Head of Legal Services – David Michael

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

Taxi Licensing Policy (Amendments)

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider amendments to the Taxi Licensing Policy.

Executive Summary

2. This report is to consider amendments to the Taxi Licensing Policy.
3. Following the introduction of the Immigration Act 2016 and the Licensing Sections decision to use an online Disclosure and Barring Service system for applications, it is necessary to make amendments to the grant and renewal processes contained within the Taxi Licensing Policy in respect of hackney carriage and private hire driver licences and private hire operator licences.
4. The Registration and Licensing Committee are being asked to approve the amendments outlined in the revised policy shown at Appendix 1.

Background

5. A report was presented to the Registration and Licensing Committee on the 19th December 2016, with information about the introduction of the

Immigration Act 2016 and the effect that it will have on the hackney carriage and private hire sector.

6. As a result of the changes, it is necessary to make amendments to the grant and renewal processes contained within the Taxi Licensing Policy in respect of hackney carriage and private hire driver licences and private hire operator licences.
7. The Licensing Section has also decided to start using an online DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) system being offered by Powys County Council. As a result of this change, additional amendments are required to the grant and renewal processes contained within the Taxi Licensing Policy in respect of hackney carriage and private hire driver licences.

Officer Report

8. It is proposed that amendments are made to the Taxi Licensing Policy to outline the way in which the Council will process grant and renewal applications following the introduction of the Immigration Act 2016 and the requirement for applicants to submit online DBS checks.
9. The amendments to the policy are detailed below and the revised wording is shown underlined in the policy attached at appendix 1.
10. Paragraph 2.3 - The requirement that all DBS applications are made using the online system.
11. Paragraph 2.7 - A new paragraph providing details of the Immigration Act 2016 and the new requirements for applicants hackney carriage and private hire driver licences.
12. Paragraph 2.10 - Amendments to the DBS application process in respect of the renewal of hackney carriage and private hire driver licences.
13. Paragraph 4.3 - A new paragraph providing details of the Immigration Act 2016 and the new requirements for applicants for private hire operator licences
14. Appendix A - Amendments to the application procedure for hackney carriage and private hire driver licences

Equality Impact Assessment

15. A Screening Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010. After completing the assessment it has been determined that this procedure does not require an Equality Impact Assessment.

Legal Impacts

16. Not applicable

Risk Management

17. Not applicable

Consultation

18. Not applicable

Recommendation

19. That the Taxi Licensing Policy be amended with the changes contained in the revised Taxi Licensing Policy attached at appendix 1.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

20. To ensure that the Taxi Licensing Policy reflects new legal requirements and revised application procedures.

Implementation of Decision

21. The decision is proposed for immediate implementation

Appendices

22. Appendix 1 - Revised Taxi Licensing Policy

List of Background Papers

23. Existing Taxi Licensing Policy

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