

**REPORT FROM: REGENERATION SERVICES  
ENGINEERING AND SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER**

**TO: TAXI LICENSING COMMITTEE**

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## **HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE REFUNDS**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To consider a change to the refunds procedure for vehicle licences.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- (1) That the licence fee be apportioned to the number of months remaining before the vehicle reaches the age limit.
- (2) That no change be made to the refund procedure for accident-damaged vehicles taken off the road.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

To reduce the administrative work in issuing refunds and following representative made from the trade.

### **BACKGROUND**

1. The Council's current procedure provides for part-refunds of the licence fee if there is more than three months' licence fee remaining for any vehicles involved in an accident or where a full licence has not been issued as it would take the duration of the licence beyond the age limit of the vehicle.
2. This procedure enables the majority of vehicle owners to receive a refund if a vehicle is taken off the road.
3. For vehicles that require a test every four months, there is usually no refund due as the majority of licences do not have three months' licence fee remaining before they are taken off the road.

## ISSUE

4. A complaint has been made that our refund procedure is unfair as the licence should be issued in accordance with the fee paid. In view of this, we have agreed to look at our procedure.
5. Vehicle owners know when their vehicle will reach the age limit and the period of licence that will be issued before the application is submitted, and therefore it has been the choice of the owners whether they wished to renew their vehicle licence for the period left.
6. Unlike accident-damaged vehicles, as we know how long the licence can be issued the recommendation is that the licence fee be brought into line with the number of months for which the relevant licence will be issued. The fee will be calculated when an application is submitted and no refund will be made at the end of the licence when the vehicle comes off the road.

## IMPLICATIONS

**Policy:** None arising directly from the report.

**Financial:** Should this be implemented, there will be an insignificant decrease in the licence fees.

**Legal:** None arising directly from the report.

**Risk Management:** None arising directly from the report.

**Health and Safety:** None arising directly from the report.

**Sustainability:** None arising directly from the report.

**Community Safety:** None arising directly from the report.

**Equality and Diversity:** None arising directly from the report.

## APPENDICES

None.

## LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.