

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

TO: TAXI LICENSING COMMITTEE

DATE: 17 JANUARY 2013

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RESULTS OF SPOT CHECK ON 7 DECEMBER 2012

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report the results of a spot check carried out on 7 December 2013.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That members note that details of firms whose vehicles fail spot checks are already made available in this and similar reports to this Committee.
- (3) That members consider the request at the last Full Council meeting for more spot checks to be carried out.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To improve the standard of licensed vehicles within the Borough.

ISSUE

1. A joint spot check on licensed vehicles was carried out on the evening of Friday, 7 December 2012, at Norfolk Street Garage with the police and Vehicle Operator Services Agency (VOSA). Eighteen vehicles were tested in total, with 11 of those being taken off the road. A list of the vehicles tested and faults is appended to this report. The vehicles which failed the spot check will now revert to a four-month licence and test.
2. At the last meeting of the Full Council on 18 December 2012, a request was made for consideration to be given into publishing the names of vehicle owners whose vehicles failed spot checks and for more spot checks to be carried out.

3. The relevant minute reads:

“Councillor TA Cooney asked if the Leader could comment on the poor pass rate of Pendle taxis during spot checks carried out by Pendle Taxi Licensing officers over the last two years and whether the number of spot checks should be increased in the interests of public safety?”

The Leader said that the pass rate at spot checks of Pendle’s taxis was disappointing, although he believed that it was only a small number of taxi operators that needed to make serious improvements. The number of annual spot checks and the penalty point system was a matter for the Taxi Licensing Committee to consider.

In answer to a supplementary question from Councillor LM Crossley, the Leader said that he would discuss with the Engineering and Special Projects Manager the possibility of publishing details of the small number of taxi operators who had a bad record so that residents of Pendle were aware of them.”

4. This current report is in a format which we regularly submit to Committee. Councillors will see that the report is not confidential and that the attached list of failures contains details of company names, vehicle registrations and faults. These details are therefore already available for publication.

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: Tests are carried out once a year for vehicles less than three years old and twice a year for vehicles over three years old. For vehicles failing on serious faults, tests are carried out three times a year.

Financial: None arising directly from the report.

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: Improvement in the standards of licensed vehicles will be safer for members of the public.

Equality and Diversity: None arising directly from the report.

APPENDICES

Appendix: Results of Spot Check on Friday, 7 December 2012.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

**Results of Spot Check Carried out with Taxi Enforcement, Police and VOSA
at Norfolk Street Garage, Nelson, on Friday, 7 December 2012**

Company	Reg of Vehicle	Result	Action Taken
Ace	FH04 XDL	N/S headlamp inoperative, battery insecure, O/S wheel stud missing, wheel split pin insecure, rear O/S side lamp inoperative, engine mounting bushes deteriorated	Immediate prohibition issued, licence suspended. Repaired and plates returned on 10/12/12 – suspension lifted as from that date
A1 and Speedline	BP05 FWE	Rear O/S brake pipes corroded to excess – CV gaiters split – advisory	Delayed prohibition issued, licence suspended. Repaired and plates returned on 08/12/12 – suspension lifted as from that date
Cavalier	MJ05 MJO	Passed vehicle inspection	
Metro Cars	FH06 ZJO	N/S front coil spring broken, shock absorbers struts insecure, handbrake cable insecure fouling against wheel rims, N/S rear light broken	Immediate prohibition issued, licence suspended. Repaired and plate returned 08/12/12 – suspension lifted as from that date
Street Cars and Pennine	FV56 GVF	N/S front tyre below legal limit	Immediate prohibition issued, licence suspended. Repaired and plate returned on 08/12/12 – suspension lifted as from that date
UK Cars	FN57 ZGA	Passed vehicle inspection	
Transporter	AE56 KGX	O/S rear and N/S front tyre below limit, anti-roll bar insecure, O/S front coil spring fractured	Immediate prohibition issued, licence suspended. Repaired and plate returned on 08/12/12 – suspension lifted as from that date

Company	Reg of Vehicle	Result	Action Taken
Adams	SD54 FPY	N/S front ball joint excessively deteriorated	Delayed prohibition issued, licence suspended. Repaired and plate returned on 08/12/12 – suspension lifted as from that date
HC16 – AK	SH08 DDL	Passed vehicle inspection	
Higher Up (Hire Car Company). Hired out to HC14 owner	ND08 XJY (hire car) 616	Passed vehicle inspection	
Higher Up (Hire Car Company). Hired out to HC17 owner	EJ58 GZG (hire Car) 608	O/S rear coil spring fractured	Delayed prohibition issued, licence suspended. Repaired and plate returned on 08/12/12 – suspension lifted as from that date
VIP	NC04 WOA	Brake pedal rubber missing, new first aid kit and fire extinguisher required, handbrake reserve travel (advise)	Immediate prohibition issued, licence suspended. Repaired and plate returned on same night – suspension lifted as from that date
Tiger	KB05 EFC	Passed vehicle inspection, first aid kit to be replaced	Replaced first aid kit on the night
Street Cars and Pennine	YJ07 MOT	N/S rear tyre below limit	Immediate prohibition issued, licence suspended. Repaired and plate returned on 08/12//12 – suspension lifted as from that date
4 Star	KT07 MJJ	Passed vehicle inspection, N/S front wing damaged severely	Licence suspended due to damage on wing. Repaired and plate returned on 08/12/12 – suspension lifted as from that date
Owner/Driver HC41	LD55 OJJ	Passed vehicle inspection	

Company	Reg of Vehicle	Result	Action Taken
Owner/Driver HC40	FH04 VJK	Passed vehicle inspection	
Kings	KY05 LRN	N/S front track rod end – freeplay, anti-roll bar linkage split	Delayed prohibition issued, licence suspended. Repaired and plate returned on 08/12/12 – suspension lifted as from that date