



**REPORT FROM: PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATORY SERVICES MANAGER**

**TO: TAXI LICENSING COMMITTEE**

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## **APPROVED TAXI TESTING GARAGES**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To report a request to add an additional testing garage to those approved.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) That no additional garage is added to the list of approved garages.
- (2) That any alterations to this are considered as part of the formal process of assessing garages.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) The provision of garages is adequate in Pendle and in order to cater for the needs of the trade.
- (2) The additional of another garage should only be undertaken through a full and fair review and not on an ad hoc basis.

### **ISSUE**

- 1 The contract for testing garages is undertaken through a formal process. Tender documents are submitted by interested parties and these are assessed by Committee and contracts are awarded based on the merits of the submissions.

- 2 The contacts were last reviewed in 2018. A report was considered by Committee in June 2018. A decision was postponed as Committee felt direct contact with garages was necessary as well as advertising and both took place. A decision was made by Committee in September 2018 to award the contract to three garages in the M65 corridor and one in West Craven. The reasons for this were:

***Appointing three garages in Nelson is sufficient for the testing of licensed vehicles. Providing an additional garage in West Craven will be more convenient for some drivers.***

***To ensure the garages appointed can provide a satisfactory level of consistency of testing and satisfactory working arrangements between the Council and them.***

- 3 An operator has contacted a Councillor to request that a further garage be added to the list as they indicate they are “facing issues with the current provision”. Officers have since looked into this to ascertain if there are problems and if there is capacity in the 4 garages in Pendle to deal with the demand.
- 4 The evidence is that the issue which led to the request was not due to difficulties in being able to access a garage or being able to be tested. There is more than enough capacity with the 4 garages to deal with the needs of the industry to test vehicles. It is not necessary to have another garage. All the garages chosen have been chosen on merit and through a sound vetting system and there are no known concerns with the quality of their work

## **IMPLICATIONS**

**Policy:** None

**Financial:** None

**Legal:** None

**Risk Management:** None

**Health and Safety:** None

**Sustainability:** None

**Community Safety:** None

**Equality and Diversity:** None