



## Taxi Licensing Committee (09.03.2023)

The Chairman advised Mr Khan that Lancashire County Council (LCC) was the responsible authority for highways. The Committee agreed to write to LCC to highlight the issue and ask that the main arterial roads be inspected for potholes.

- In response to a question from Mr Akram, the Chairman provided details on his engagement with the taxi trade during his chairmanship of the Committee.

## **22. MINUTES**

### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **23. TAXI SAFETY AND MEASURES TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SAFETY**

Further to suggested changes to the taxi policy being put out to consultation, the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report which outlined the issues and provided details of the consultation responses from both the taxi trade and members of the public. The purpose of the changes was to make the trade safer for passengers and drivers.

In addition to increasing the number of tests per year from two to three, one of which to include an MOT; and the introduction of an app. to record daily vehicle checks, the following proposals were put out to consultation –

<b>Trigger</b>	<b>Proposed Sanction</b>
Failure of 50% of tested vehicles of an operator over a 1 year period.	Operator to have their licence revoked.
8 points to be issued to a driver of any vehicle that fails a spot check.	A driver that exceeds 15 points to be brought before Taxi Licensing Committee to have their licence reviewed.
8 penalty points for any driver failing to have a record on the app. to confirm that before the journey started they had checked the condition of their vehicle. The vehicle must comply with what was recorded on the app.	A driver that exceeded 15 points would be brought before Taxi Licensing Committee to have their licence reviewed.
Lying/being untruthful on the vehicle check record.	Driver to have their licence revoked for dishonesty.
Failure to immediately attend a spot check.	Driver to have their licence revoked for dishonesty.
A vehicle fails two spot checks.	The licence for that vehicle is permanently revoked and that vehicle could not be licensed again in Pendle.

The Committee received a demonstration of a proposed mobile phone app. that could be used to record daily vehicle checks. The app. would cost £1 per week for each vehicle. If introduced, training would be provided.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Policy and Resources Committee be recommended to approve changes to the taxi policy as follows -

- (1) The number of tests per year to be increased from two to three, one of which to include an MOT.
- (2) An app. to be introduced to record daily vehicle checks and, within three months of the date of the decision to introduce the app., it be a requirement that this be used.
- (3) A failure of 50% of tested vehicles of an operator over a 1 year period to result in an operator having their licence reviewed by the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager.
- (4) 8 points to be issued to a driver of any vehicle that failed a spot check – A driver that exceeded 15 points to be brought before Taxi Licensing Committee to have their licence reviewed.
- (5) 8 penalty points for any driver failing to have a record on the app. to confirm that before the start of their shift they had checked the condition of their vehicle. The vehicle must comply with what was recorded on the app. – A driver that exceeded 15 points to be brought before Taxi Licensing Committee to have their licence reviewed.
- (6) Lying/being untruthful on the vehicle check record – Driver to have their licence reviewed by the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager.
- (7) Failure to immediately attend a spot check – Driver to have their licence reviewed by the Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager.
- (8) A vehicle failed two spot checks – Vehicle to have its licence reviewed.

## **REASON**

***The mechanical condition of taxis is significantly deficient and measures are needed to improve public safety.***

## **24. RESULTS OF APPEALS/PROSECUTIONS**

The Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager submitted a report, for information, on decisions of appeals/prosecutions since the last meeting.

CHAIRMAN \_\_\_\_\_