



Walsall Council

LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

20 OCTOBER 2010

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

LICENSED VEHICLES INSURANCE CERTIFICATES PRODUCTION

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 For members of the committee to consider the acceptance of faxed or emailed insurance documents or confirmation of insurance, supplied directly by the insurance provider or broker, when vehicles are due to be licensed.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The committee is asked to consider the information contained in the report and determine whether the licensing unit is permitted to accept faxed or emailed insurance documents or confirmation of insurance direct from the insurance provider or broker when vehicles are licensed.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 It is a condition of Walsall MBC that at the point of licensing a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle, a current, valid, original insurance document is produced to the licensing officer. There is a legal duty on the Council to ensure that there is in force a policy of insurance which complies with Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1988
- 3.2 In some cases due to loss of the insurance certificate by the policyholder, or delays in sending out the document by the broker, or mistakes on the actual insurance document, there can be a delay in issuing a vehicle licence to the proprietor.
- 3.3 Technology has moved on significantly since the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 were introduced.

- 3.4 The Motor Vehicles (Electronic Communication of Certificates of Insurance) order 2010 which came into force on the 30th April 2010 now permits the police and vehicle examiners to accept a legible printed copy of the insurance certificate which has been issued by the insurance company electronically or is made available by the insurer to the person on a website, it does not have to be an original document that is produced to these agencies.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Any changes made to the hackney carriage/ private hire conditions of licence will need to be amended accordingly

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Legal Services consulted: Yes.

7.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

- 7.1 None arising from this report.

8.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 8.1 None

9.0 Contact Officer

- 9.1 Steve Knapper, 01922 652221