



Walsall Council

Licensing and Safety Committee – 31 May 2022

Establishment of Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group

1. Summary of report

The purpose of the report is to suggest the re-establishment of the Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group and appoint Members thereto.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That a Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group be established in accordance with the terms of reference set out in the appendix to the report.
- 2.2 To determine the number of members forming the Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group and to appoint members thereto.

3. Background information

- 3.1 The Licensing and Safety Committee has, for many years, established a Taxi/Private Hire Liaison Group as a mechanism for engaging and building relationships with the taxi and private hire trade. Meetings are arranged as and when appropriate.
- 3.2 The membership and Terms of Reference for the Liaison Group are appended to this report.

4. Resource considerations

- 4.1 **Financial:** Within Budget:
- 4.2 **Legal:** This is an informal discussion group. In view of the fact that paid officers of the Council are members of the Group, the regulations relating to political balance need not be applied
- 4.3 **Staffing:** The Liaison Group will be supported by Democratic Services and other technical officers and representatives of partner organisations such as the police as and when appropriate.

- 5. **Citizen impact:** Nothing arising from this report.

6. **Community safety:** Nothing arising from this report.
7. **Environmental impact:** None.
8. **Performance and risk management issues:** Nothing arising from this report.
9. **Equality implications:** None.
10. **Consultation:** Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Associations.

Background papers

Previous reports and correspondence with the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Associations.

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Appendix

Taxi/Private Hire Group - Membership and Terms of Reference

(a) Membership

- Representatives of Licensing and Safety Committee
(The number to be determined by the Committee) or other nominees
- Regulatory Services Manager, or nominee
- 1 Representative of West Midlands Police
- 1 representative from Taxi Licensing Office
- 2 representatives from each of the following:-
 - (i) Taxi Owners Association and
 - (ii) Private Hire Association (or their equivalent)

(b) Quorum

- 2 representatives of Licensing and Safety Committee
- 1 representative from each (i) Taxi Owners Association and (ii) Private Hire Association (or their equivalent)
- 1 representative from Taxi Licensing Office

(c) Purpose

The purpose of the Liaison Group is to discuss any matters of concern relating to taxi/private hire matters generally and any matters specifically referred to it and to make recommendations thereon to the Licensing and Safety Committee.

(d) Frequency of Meetings

Meetings may be arranged as and when the need arises at 6pm. The notes of the meeting shall be received by the Licensing and Safety Committee, together with any recommendations made by the Liaison Group.