

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Legal Services	Licensing & Safety Committee	11/01/06

LICENCE CONDITION RELATING TO INSURANCE OF LICENSED HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To inform members of a problem that is arising regarding the insurance of licensed vehicles and for members to approve a new licence condition to address this problem.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report has an impact upon the key priorities of the Council ie making a safer Chorley by ensuring as far as reasonably possible that all licensed vehicles are covered by insurance at all times

RISK ISSUES

- The issue raised and recommendations made in this report involve risk considerations in the following categories:

Strategy		Information	
Reputation		Regulatory/Legal	4
Financial		Operational	
People		Other	

- There is a right of appeal against a condition imposed on private hire vehicle or hackney carriage proprietors licence to the Magistrates Court.

BACKGROUND

- It is a requirement that upon licensing a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle a valid certificate of insurance must be produced. Often this is a cover note for a period of a month and it is becoming increasingly difficult to identify the proprietors who do not subsequently produce a full certificate of insurance. In addition one company is insuring some of it's vehicles on a weekly basis that again causes administration and enforcement problems.

6.

There is no licence condition making a vehicle proprietor responsible for producing an up to date insurance for the licensed vehicle and often the only time this is checked is when the licence is due for renewal.

- It is therefore proposed that the following licence condition be added to both hackney carriage and private hire vehicle licences:-

INSURANCE

Where the insurance produced with the application for or renewal of this licence is due to expire before the date of expiry of the licence a current insurance document must be produced either on or before the date when the original insurance expires.

It is the responsibility of the licensee to ensure that a current insurance document is produced to the Licensing Section; failure to do so may result in the suspension of this licence.

8 It is envisaged that time will be available for an increased enforcement of insurance documents by making more use of the Council's data base and by spot checks followed by suspension of the vehicle licence if necessary.

COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

9. N/A

RECOMMENDATION

10. That the Committee approves the new licence condition in the form above.

ROSEMARY A. LYON
DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES

There are no background papers to this report.

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