

Report of	Meeting	Date	Item No
Chief Executive	Licensing & Safety Committee	7 June 2006	

## **STRETCHED LIMOUSINES – EXCEPTION TO LICENCE CONDITION REGARDING COLOUR**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To bring to the attention of members a problem that could arise in licensing stretched limousines.

### **CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

2. This report is not relevant to any of the key corporate priorities of the Council.

### **RISK ISSUES**

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

Strategy	✓	Information	
Reputation		Regulatory/Legal	
Financial		Operational	
People		Other	

4. The Council must be in a position to licence various types of vehicles including stretched limousines.

### **BACKGROUND**

5. At a meeting of this Committee in January of this year it was resolved that all hackney carriages must be white and all private hire vehicles must be any colour except white
6. The reason for introducing this condition was to emphasise the difference between hackney carriage and private hire vehicles for the benefit of the users of these vehicles.
7. There is a certain section of the vehicle hire trade that is presently licensed by VOSA, but should reasonably be licensed by the Council. and there are many operators who are providing vehicles such as stretched limousines without any licences whatsoever.
8. A major problem in licensing a stretched limousine at present is the licence condition that does not allow white private hire vehicles. Many of these limousines are supplied as white vehicles and it would be unreasonable to expect the owners to change the colour

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9. As the reason for the licence condition relating to the colour of the vehicle is as stated at paragraph 6 above, there would not be a problem of a white stretched limousine being mistaken for a hackney carriage and to allow the licensing of these type of vehicles it is suggested that an exception could be made in respect of stretched limousines or similar types of vehicles.

**COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

10. Not applicable

**COMMENTS OF THE HEAD OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

11. Not applicable.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

12. That the Committee considers amending the licence condition in respect of private hire vehicles from "4 (g) the colour of the vehicle shall not be white" to "4 (g) the colour of the vehicle shall not be white unless it is a stretched limousine or other similar vehicle that is acceptable for licensing as a private hire vehicle"

DONNA HALL  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

<b>Background Papers</b>			
<b>Document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Place of Inspection</b>
Minute 06.LS.05 of meeting on 11/1/06			

  

<b>Report Author</b>	<b>Ext</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Doc ID</b>
K Ogden	5163	11 May 2006	LEGREP/STRETCHED LIMOS