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**TITLE: ACTION TAKEN BY THE HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ON THE GROUNDS OF URGENCY – IMPLEMENTATION DATES FOR REVISED HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES**

Committee: Licensing Committee

Date: 14 December 2011

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1.0 **ISSUE**

1.1 To note the action taken by the Head of Environmental Services in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Licensing Committee on the grounds of urgency regarding implementation dates for revised Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licence conditions.

2.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 That the Licensing Committee notes the report.

3.0 **BACKGROUND/OPTIONS**

3.1 The Licensing Committee at its meeting on 15 June 2011 amended Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licence Conditions relating to:

- Third Party Advertisements
- Council Approved sticker on Private Hire Vehicles
- Display of licence number issued by the Council in the vehicle of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles

3.2 Implementation dates for the revised conditions were not agreed. The Hackney Carriage and Private Hire trade needed to be informed of these changes and implementation dates as soon as possible. Therefore, the Head of Environmental Services exercised her delegated authority on an emergency basis.

3.3 In accordance with Paragraph 5.1 of the Terms of Reference for Licensing Committee, the Head of Environmental Services in consultation with the Chairman, and Vice Chairman of the Committee, and having notified the Spokespersons of the action taken, agreed the following actions on the grounds of urgency:

a) **Advertisements on Hackney Carriage Vehicles**

**Revised Licence Condition 4.1 (previously condition 4.1)  
To come into effect for all licensed Hackney Carriage Vehicles  
from 1 January 2012**

The fixing of full colour third party advertisements on Hackney Carriages is allowed, subject to the approval of the Council. Proprietors are permitted to choose their own suppliers provided there are no advertisements relating to alcohol, tobacco or gambling. Should the application be refused and the applicant disagrees with the council decision, he/she may request a Hearing by Committee.

Third party advertisements are those that relate to advertisements other than the Taxi Company's own details.

- b) **Approved Stickers on Private Hire vehicles.  
To come into effect for new, replacement and transferred private hire vehicles from 1 January 2012  
For all private hire vehicles from 1 January 2013**

Private Hire vehicles are to carry the Council Approved Sticker on the front passenger and driver doors at all times, in a central position, which includes the wording "Advanced bookings only", the licence plate number, company name excluding the word "taxi" and "cab" and company telephone number. The stickers must not be defaced, altered or damaged in any way and must be replaced immediately if they become damaged or altered.

- c) **Display of vehicle licence plate number inside of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles.  
New Licence Condition 2.7 & 3.4  
To come into effect for all licensed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles from 1 January 2012**

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles must at all times clearly display by firmly affixing in the vehicle, the licence number issued by the Council and it must be able to be seen by passengers.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.1 There are no financial implications related to this report.

4.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) not required.

5.0 APPENDICES

5.1 None.

**Background Documents**

East Cambridgeshire District  
Council Constitution: Part 3,  
Pages 37-38

**Location**

Room SF201  
The Grange  
Ely

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