

## REGULATORY AND APPEALS COMMITTEE – 16 MARCH 2018

<b>Title of paper:</b>	Hackney Carriage Vehicle Specification		
<b>Director:</b>	Andrew Errington	<b>Wards affected:</b> ALL	
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<b>Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder:</b>		N/A	
<b>Relevant Council Plan Key Theme:</b>			
Strategic Regeneration and Development			<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools			<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning and Housing			<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Services			<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy, Sustainability and Customer			<input type="checkbox"/>
Jobs, Growth and Transport			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Adults, Health and Community Sector			<input type="checkbox"/>
Children, Early Intervention and Early Years			<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure and Culture			<input type="checkbox"/>
Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):</b>			
The report asks members to consider a proposal for a new colour scheme to apply to all new and replacement Hackney Carriage Vehicles introduced to the fleet in line with the age policy granted by this committee on 18 December 2017 (appendix 1).			
<b>Recommendations:</b>			
<b>1</b>	The Committee approve that from 17 March 2018 the current vehicle specification for new or replacement hackney carriage vehicles be amended so that approved vehicles are required to be finished in black with a white vinyl wrapped roof and the Council coat of arms being displayed on the front doors of the vehicle.		
<b>2</b>	The Committee authorise the following officers individually to add additional black colour codes to the list at appendix 2 (should they change or otherwise become available) following consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair and opposition spokesperson: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Director of Community Protection;</li> <li>Head of City Centre Management;</li> <li>Regional Licensing and Policy Manager.</li> </ul>		

## **1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 At the meeting of this Committee in December 2017, a new Age and Specification Policy was approved as the then existing specifications were over 20 years old. It is proposed to further amend that policy to include a full colour change for Hackney Carriages.
- 1.2 Section 47 and 48 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allows a Council to prescribe the design and appearance of both the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle with the aim to ensure the safety of the travelling passenger.
- 1.3 Amending the colour specification for the Hackney Carriage will provide an easily identifiable branding to a method of transportation, which is not only safe and comfortable but also takes into account technological improvements together with emission efficiencies.

## **2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)**

- 2.1 Section 47 and 48 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allows a Council to prescribe the design and appearance of both the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle with the aim to ensure the safety of the travelling passenger.
- 2.2 Nottingham has a varied transportation system which includes tram and bus fleets which are already contributing to the Councils wider responsibilities such as air quality by way of electric vehicles. The Hackney Carriage fleet (as well as private hire) are part of that network and as such are required to also contribute to the Councils mandates.
- 2.3 Proposal for changes to the private hire and hackney carriage fleets are set against the context of the Council's Hackney and Private Hire Vehicle Strategy 2017-2020 and also the DEFRA Clean Air Zone Framework, A colour transition would promote the emergence of the greener, cleaner more efficient Euro 6/ELEV Hackney Carriage fleet.
- 2.4 The colour transition has been discussed with various trade bodies and drivers at meetings over the past 12 months and a recent roadshow again highlighted the technologies available to the Hackney trade as a whole.
- 2.5 In line with the new Age and Emissions Policy, drivers of Hackney Carriage Vehicles are having to invest a great deal more money into newer, more efficient vehicles and so maintaining a factory black colour would not only save the drivers the cost of a respray, but also create a clean, valued and visible product for the City.
- 2.6 As each manufacturer has its own colour coding for the colour black and the variants such as metallic etc, to maintain a smart fleet it is necessary to define those specific colours.

## **3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Maintain the existing colour coding – (Jaguar Racing Green – JBC701). This would not define the dramatic effect of changing the image of the existing fleet to a cleaner more efficient offer.

#### **4 FINANCE COLLEAGUE COMMENTS**

- 4.1 None to the Council, however, there may be small additional cost to the vehicle proprietors to cover the cost of the vinyl wrap on the roof.

#### **5 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COLLEAGUE COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND LEGAL, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)**

- 5.1 Before the Council may grant a Private Hire or Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence it is required to be satisfied of certain statutory criteria regarding its type, size, design, condition and safety and it is lawful for a Council to adopt policies relating to such matters.
- 5.2 The adoption of a Policy is potentially challengeable by way of judicial review on public law grounds. Individual licensing decisions are open to challenge by way of appeal.

#### **6 STRATEGIC ASSETS & PROPERTY COLLEAGUE COMMENTS**

- 6.1 N/A

#### **7 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 Not required as the vehicle specification defined by the Council takes into consideration all areas of the travelling public.

#### **8 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION**

- 8.1 None

#### **9 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

- Report to Regulatory and Appeals Committee – 18 December 2017;
- Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976;
- Police and Town Clauses Act 1947;
- Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Strategy.