

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL****LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE****4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006****Taxi Trade Liaison**

<b>OPEN</b>	
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	Head of Planning Health and Environment
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Brian Kent – Ext. 2593 Brian.Kent @wyreforestdc.gov.uk
<b>APPENDICES</b>	None

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To propose that the Taxi Trade Liaison Group should be re-appointed to ensure continued consultation between the Council and the Hackney Carriage / Private Hire trade on issues of mutual interest.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

The Committee is asked to **DECIDE:**

**2.1 A Taxi Trade Liaison Group be re-appointed, consisting of:**

- the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Licensing and Environmental Committee and one other member of the Committee;
- the Cabinet Member for Planning, Health and Environment; and
- four members of the Taxi trade, nominated by the trade.

- 2.2 The group should meet three times per year to discuss issues of common interest between the Council and the Hackney Carriage / Private Hire trade and report back to this Committee as necessary.

- 2.3 To re-appoint the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and a third member to represent the Committee on this group.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 In the past, consultation with the hackney carriage / private hire trade has taken place in a variety of forums namely:

- The Taxi Trade Task Group
- The Wyre Forest Licensing Forum
- Ad hoc meetings with the trade by Officers and Members.

3.2 In order to ensure regular and consistent contact with all aspects of the trade it was felt that the establishment of such a group was necessary and would aid the Committee in dealing with matters relating to taxis.

3.3 On the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2005, the Committee decided that a Taxi Trade Liaison Group should be established meeting three times per year.

3.4 Over the past year, the Liaison Group has met, and has discussed, among other things, concerns over the Taxi Deregulation Plan and the new Vehicle Licence Conditions which came into operation on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2005.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no financial implications.

#### **5. LEGAL AND POLICY ISSUES**

5.1 The Council is committed to ensuring that consultation is entered into with all stakeholders wherever possible.

#### **6. CONCLUSION**

6.1 Liaison with this group ensures regular and consistent contact with the taxi trade and assists the Committee when dealing with licensing issues.

#### **7. CONSULTEES**

7.1 Head of Legal and Democratic Services

#### **8. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 None