



North Tyneside Council

Councillor J Stirling
Chirton Ward
Chair of Regulation and Review Committee
39 Lansdowne Terrace West
North Shields
NE29 0RZ

Tel: (0191) 257 6188

e-mail: john.stirling@northtyneside.gov.uk

15 March 2019

Cllr Carole Burdis
Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Engagement
North Tyneside Council
Quadrant
The Silverlink North
Cobalt Business Park
North Tyneside
NE27 0BY

Dear Councillor Burdis

Taxi and Private Hire Vehicles Licensing: Protecting Users Consultation on Statutory Guidance for Licensing Authorities

The Regulation and Review Committee has the responsibility to exercise the Authority's functions in relation to the licensing of Hackney Carriage vehicles, Hackney Carriage drivers, Private Hire vehicles, Private Hire operators and Private Hire drivers under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

At its meeting on 28 February 2019 the Committee considered the current consultation on statutory guidance for Licensing Authorities by the Department for Transport (DfT) in relation to the licensing of taxis, private hire vehicles, drivers and private hire operators.

As the Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Engagement you have the delegated authority from the Mayor to respond to government consultation papers. Please find attached the Committee's response to the consultation questions for your consideration when formulating the Authority's formal response to the consultation.

The Committee also gave the following feedback in relation to Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing in general for your consideration and potential inclusion in the response to government:

- a) Concern regarding the impact the cost of these changes would have on the Trade and the Licensing Authority; and
- b) Frustration that the information sharing processes with the courts was not as it could be. Examples were cited of when drivers had appeared before a panel of the Committee for failing to disclose a conviction gained during the course of their

licence. It was considered that there should be a process where the courts informed a licensing authority of any convictions imposed on one of their licensed drivers.

I would be grateful if you could send a copy of the Authority's submission to this consultation to Democratic Services for circulation to the Regulation and Review Committee for their information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Stirling', written in a cursive style.

Cllr John Stirling
Chair of Regulation and Review Committee

Copy to:
Phil Scott, Head of Environment, Housing and Leisure
Joanne Lee, Public Protection Manager

Enc