
Regulatory Services Committee MINUTES

**Of a meeting held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, on
Wednesday, 3 December 2025 from 7.30 pm - 8.05 pm.**

Present: Councillors

Harry Davies (Chair), Andrea Fraser, Ciaran Reed, Andrew Scarth, Narinder Sian, Anne Winter

Officers in Attendance:

Matthew Roberts, Development Management Team Leader
Lorna Curtis, Lead Licensing Officer
Nargis Sultan, Deputy Chief Legal Officer & Deputy Monitoring Officer
Anita Hibbs, Committee Officer

RG36/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Debbie Morris, Stephen Cox, Raj Khiroya.

RG37/25 MINUTES

The minutes of the Regulatory Services Committee held on 11 June 2025 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

RG38/25 NOTICE OF URGENT BUSINESS

There was no other business.

RG39/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

RG40/25 REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE POLICY 2022

The Development Management Team Leader introduced the report and provided a brief update.

Key topics include the use of CCTV cameras inside taxis for safety purposes, which is currently optional but may become mandatory in the future. Advertising on vehicles is allowed but restricted to company-related advertising and requires Council approval.

The conversation addressed licensing fees, noting they are relatively high compared to other areas due to inclusive costs like knowledge tests, with potential future reviews discussed in light of the local government reorganisation (LGR).

The knowledge test content is under review to reflect satellite navigation technology and emphasise understanding of the highway code and policies.

Safeguarding measures for drivers transporting vulnerable groups, including annual safeguarding tests were confirmed by officers.

The discussion also covered vehicle age limits, particularly for wheelchair accessible taxis, with concerns about losing accessible vehicles as age limits tighten.

Taxi ranks and their locations were also discussed, highlighting the importance of encouraging taxi usage and driver recruitment, with considerations about funding and placement of additional ranks.

The Committee also discussed reporting procedures for concerns involving adults, suggesting improvements such as displaying emergency contact numbers on driver badges for quicker access.

Councillor Ciaran Reed proposed an amendment to table 19. of the policy; to move the two offences titled 'Slavery, abduction, false imprisonment etc.', 'Any offence that can be categorised as domestic violence' into the 'Serious violence' offence category.

Councillor Harry Davies moved Option 2 of the recommendation as set out in the report with the amendment *to move the offences titled 'Slavery, abduction, false imprisonment etc.', and 'Any offence that can be categorised as domestic violence' into the 'Serious violence' offence category.*

On being put to the Committee, the motion was declared CARRIED by the Chair, the voting being by general assent.

RESOLVED:

Recommendation

That members of the Committee:

- Agree to make minor revisions to the revised Policy and recommend that Full Council adopt the revised Policy (Option 2)
- That public access to the report be immediate.

RG41/25 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee reviewed the work programme, discussing the timing of reviews, suggesting a review every three years, with possible interim updates, including the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy to be reviewed again in Summer 2026 - given the possible implications to hackney carriage trade and pending government changes to legislation. They also considered the inclusion of street trading policies in upcoming reviews, noting recent adoptions and minor changes. The conversation also touched on budget shares and the need to assess funding allocations over the next few years.

The Committee noted the work programme.

RG42/25 OTHER BUSINESS - IF APPROVED UNDER ITEM 3 ABOVE

None

RG43/25 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

CHAIR