Consultation comments from a Private Hire Operator in relation to the proposed amendments to Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licencing Policy with the responses from the Licensing Authority

Para.	Revision	Source	Private Hire Operator's Response	Licensing Authority's Response
Introduction	Reference to tax	New legal	Agree	
	conditionality added	requirement		
2.	Paragraph reworded	N/A	Agree	
6.	"promoting the welfare of children" added	Statutory Standards	Agree	
6. a)	"promoting the welfare of children" added	Statutory Standards	Agree	
6. b)	Reference to checking criminal records of all applicants added	Statutory Standards	Agree	
6. e)	Promoting the vision of Middlesbrough amended to reflect policy statement	Council Policy Statement	No comment	
9.	Reference to checks on tax registration and criminal records of vehicle proprietors added	New legal requirement and Statutory Standards	Agree	
10.	"on its own merits" added	Statutory Standards	Agree	
11.	Reference to consideration been given to the guidance from the Institute of Licensing and the adoption of the Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards	Institute of Licensing Statutory Standards	As the IOL suitability guidance was largely, but not completely adopted by the Statutory Standards, suggest referring only to the Statutory Standards as they are made pursuant to a statutory power and post-date the IOL guidance in any event	Agree

	recommendations as minimum core standards			
14.	New implementation date for revised policy	N/A	Agree, but also appears at 16	Noted
21.	Local business added to list of consultees	N/A	Noted	
24.	National Anti-Fraud Network added to list of partnership working to reflect current practice	N/A	Agree	
40; 41; 43	Reference to "vaping" included to no-smoking policy to reflect current terminology	N/A	Agree, but appears to relate to 41-43	
44.	"County lines exploitation" wording added	Statutory Standards	Agree	
	Paragraph deleted as deadlines expired for attending the safeguarding training	N/A	Agree	
47.	Paragraph amended as deadline for producing a policy to the council has expired	N/A	Noted	
49.	Requirement for operators to have a policy on employing ex- offenders and to carry out fit and proper checks on employees who dispatch vehicles added	Statutory Standards	There's a genuine employment law issue in relation to existing staff when their contracts do not provide for them to be criminal record checked. If they do not agree to being checked, an employer's only option is to terminate their employment and offer to re-employ them on new terms, ie including a requirement for a criminal record check, but this gives rise to potential unfair / constructive dismissal claims, etc. See ACAS guidance at	This is a statutory standard to protect the public and operators will need to comply with this requirement and make arrangements with their staff

52.	Wording in respect of the policy on tinted windows in licensed vehicles changed to reflect new	New policy adopted following consultatio		<u>er-</u> so confer	
58 – 68.	policyNew paragraphsexplaining TaxConditionality checks forhackney carriage andprivate hire drivers andprivate hire operatorsadded to ensure they areregistered for taxpurposes	New legal requiremer	Agree		
SECTION	VEHICLES – PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY	CARRIAGE			
2 Para.	Revision	Source	Trade Comments		Response
•	,	Statutory Standards	Agree		
70.		N/A	Agree		
	Paragraph explaining vehicle type approval deleted	N/A	Noted		
72.	0 0	Government guidance	Agree		
75.	Wording amended to	Association of British	Agree		

	vehicle insurance "write offs"	Insurers (ABI)		
84.	The wording "to satisfy local demand" added	N/A	Noted	
116.	Wording amended to reflect new categories of vehicle insurance "write offs"	ABI	Agree has to be included, but there should be no need for an engineer's report or JIG report as vehicles classified as Category N (formerly Category D) are so classified because the structure of the vehicle has not been compromised by the damage. To require such reports is to place on the trade an unnecessary expense and regulatory burden in breach of the requirements of the Regulators' Code.	Agree will not be required for Cat N unless Council garage have concerns
120.	"and Appendix D" added to direct applicants to the test criteria used by the council	N/A	Agree	
122 – 130.	New section on criminality checks on vehicle proprietors added	Statutory Standards	Agree has to be included, but urge the Council to require only one Basic DBS check a year to avoid those with multiple vehicles having to obtain potentially 12 checks a year.	Following discussions with Council's Legal Officer the first DBS check needs to be within 1 month, Renewed annually
131.	New requirement to provide basic DBS and Certificate of Good Character (if applicable) added to application requirements	Statutory Standards	Agree has to be included and repeat comments above in relation to paras 122 – 130.	Following discussions with Council's Legal Officer the first DBS check needs to be within 1 month, Renewed annually

133.	Additional wording added regarding the provision of an engineer's report/jig report as deemed necessary for vehicles deemed an insurance write off.	N/A	Agree has to be included, but repeat comments made in relation to para 116 above.	Agree will not be required for Cat N unless Council garage have concerns
135; 136.	New paragraphs added recommending vehicle renewal applications be made at least one month before the licence expires to ensure vehicle test dates can be secured and any renewal applications received after 28 days from the licence expiry date will not be accepted and an application for a new vehicle licence will need to be made and when specifications for new vehicle licence complied with.	Advice following court judgement (R (on the application of Exeter City Council) v Sandle	Agree	
137.	New requirement to provide basic DBS disclosure added to renewal application requirements	Statutory Standards	Agree has to be included, but repeat comments above in relation to paras 122 – 130.	Following discussions with Council's Legal Officer the first DBS check needs to be within 1 month, Renewed annually
	Paragraph deleted re renewal timescale as recommendation now included in new paragraph above	N/A	Noted	
143; 144.	New paragraph added requiring proprietors who	Statutory Standard	Agree	

	are companies or partnerships to notify the council of any changes within 7 days and for new directors or partners to submit a basic DBS disclosure and Certificate of Good Character where applicable			
147.	Requirement to produce a basic DBS disclosure and Certificate of good Character added to process	Statutory Standards	Agree has to be included, but repeat comments above in relation to paras 122 – 130.	Following discussions with Council's Legal Officer the first DBS check needs to be within 1 month, Renewed annually
150.	New paragraph added regarding seating in stretched limousines	Best Practice Guidance	Noted	
	Paragraph re tinted window exemption deleted as no longer applicable following introduction of new policy	Council approved policy change	Agree	
166.	New policy on tinted windows defined	Council approved policy change	Agree	
169.	Wording amended to ensure compliance with any guidance re CCTV from the Information Commissioners Office and the Home Office and new sentence added requiring information that CCTV is in a vehicle must be provided on booking systems.	Statutory Standards	Agree, but note requirement to register with the ICO also applies in respect of the use of dashcams in work vehicles, such as HC & PHV	Agree, will amend to include dashcams

181.	years and termination period from 8 to 10 years and 10 to 12 years for London Style cabs and side loading wheelchair accessible vehicles New statistics provided on numbers of vehicles meeting the different European Emission Standards	Council approved policy change N/A	Agree		
	Paragraph on air quality standards concerns deleted as the results were disproved by the Council	N/A	Noted		
SECTION 3	DRIVERS				
Para.	Revision	Source		Trade Comments	
•	Tax conditionality added to the contents list	New legal requiremen	Agree t		
195.	Registration for tax and immigration status added to the "fit and proper" test criteria.	Statutory Standards	Agree		
198.	Added wording to explain that in determining the fit and proper test the onus is on the applicant to provide evidence that they are and not for the council to prove that they are not	N/A	Agree		

		APPENDIX 4
N/A New legal requirement	Agree	
N/A	Agree	
Government guidelines	Agree	

	need for a driving assessment and to include the new requirement for registration for tax	requirement		
204.	The requirement for new applicants to have passed an approved driving assessment has been removed	N/A	Agree	
205.	Checking an applicant's immigration status and right to work has been updated to include the use of a share code from the online View and Prove Service on Gov.UK	Government guidelines	Agree	
211.	Additional paragraph added to explain the use of the new online View and Prove service on GOV.UK to generate a right to work share code to enable the council to access the online immigration checking service to verify the types of work the applicant is able to do	Government Guidelines	Noted	
214.	Knowledge of highway code removed from the knowledge test and new sentence added that tests for private hire driver's licences will not include a topographical element as it is a requirement that	Trade request	Agree	

Proof of eligibility for drivers amended to remove the

202.

	licensed private hire drivers have use of a fully operational sat-nav system (or similar device) in any licensed vehicle they drive at all times			
220.	Level of spoken English changed to Language Proficiency and written English included, and applicants that cannot demonstrate a reasonable level may be referred to the Licensing Committee	Statutory Standards	Agree has to be included, but the Council will have to be careful about how it implements this requirement in an appropriate, proportionate and non- discriminatory way.	Noted
230.	Requirement to provide a Certificate of Good Conduct qualified by being resident/domiciled in a country for a period of six months or more	Statutory Standards Institute of Licensing Guidelines	Noted	
237.	Period of validity of an initial DBS disclosure reduced from 6 months to 1 month before an applicant may be requested to produce a further check	N/A	Agree has to be included, but must make clear that this does not apply if an applicant has signed up to the DBS update service, which they should have done in any event.	Already clear
238.	Medical certification of fitness must be completed by a "registered" medical practitioner i.e. a doctor	DVLA	Agree	
242.	Medical assessment changed to medical declaration	N/A	Noted, but don't believe this is a "new legal requirement"	Noted
256.	Failure to comply with a request for a drug test "without reasonable excuse	Statutory Standards	Agree	

257 - 266 New paragraphs added explaining Tax Conditionality and tax Check requirements for applicants N/A Agree 267 - 275 Application procedure amended to include: • View an Prove Your Immigration Status Service share code • DVLA licence check code • HMRC declaration or tax-check code and to remove driving assessment certificate N/A Noted, but think this refers to 267 277. Recommendation added that renewal applications be made at least one month before a licence is due to expire as legislation does not allow for continuity of licence N/A Noted 279. New provision on the issuing of a short term licence, "without prejudice", when a renewal application is Sovernment guidelines Agree, but might also want to consider unreported decision of Notingham Crown Court in Cartledge v Gedling Borough Council Noted but do not believe it is necessary to include reference to case					
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267 - 275 Application procedure amended to include: N/A New legal requirement • View an Prove Your Immigration Status Service share code New legal requirement & 275, not 267 - 275 • DVLA licence check code • DVLA licence check code • • HMRC declaration or tax-check code • N/A assessment certificate N/A Noted 277. Recommendation added that renewal applications be made at least one month before a licence is due to expire as legislation dees not allow for continuity of licence N/A Noted 279. New provision on the issuing of a short term licence, "without prejudice", when a renewal application is Government guidelines Agree, but might also want to consider unreported decision of Nottingham Crown Court in Cartledge v Gedling Borough Council Noted but do not believe it is necessary to include reference to case					
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licence, "without Nottingham Crown Court in prejudice", when a Cartledge v Gedling Borough renewal application is Council			guidelines		
prejudice", when a Cartledge v Gedling Borough renewal application is Council			0	•	
renewal application is Council					
		received and there are			
grounds for concern that		grounds for concern that			
delays determination of		9			
that application.		-			
303. New sentence added that N/A As the Council clearly accepts Agree, will remove	303.	· · ·	N/A	As the Council clearly accepts	Agree, will remove
		voluntary surrender of a		that licences can be surrendered	

	licence will not be accepted when the driver is subject to ongoing legal proceedings, disciplinary hearing or investigation of a complaint		(and I agree with it in that regard), there is no legal basis (and deciding to have a policy is not a legal basis, because a policy does not entitle a public body to do something that its not permitted to do by law in the first place). If a situation is so serious that the Council needs to act decisively, it should use its power to revoke with immediate effect, which will eradicate the risk of surrender. If the situation does not give rise to a public safety issue of that magnitude, is there really an issue?	
SECTION 4	PRIVATE HIRE OPERATO	RS		
Para.	Revision	Source	Trade Comments	Response
			0011110113	
•	 Register of staff Policy on employing ex- offenders Tax conditionality added to the list of contents 	Statutory Standards New legal requirement	Agree	
• 309. 314.	 Policy on employing ex- offenders Tax conditionality added to the list of 	Standards New legal		This is a statutory standard to protect the

	with the public and/or oversee the dispatching of vehicles and to include production of a basic DBS disclosure		unilaterally change staff contracts without risking staff making claims to an employment tribunal. See ACAS guidance at <u>https://www.acas.org.uk/changing- an-employment- contract/employer-responsibilities</u> and, if necessary, seek guidance from the Council's HR and Legal Teams.	this requirement and make arrangements with their staff
315 - 318	New paragraphs added to explain new requirements on operators to keep a register of staff that take bookings or dispatch vehicles and to produce a policy on employing ex- offenders	Statutory Standards	Agree	
326; 327; 331	Wording amended to require production of a basic DBS disclosure and Certificate of Good Character (when applicable) with new applications and annually thereafter.	Statutory Standards	Agree, but exemption should be extended to operators that have an Enhanced DBS certificate and are signed up to the update service for another purpose, such as in connection with the provision of a regulated activity in connection with the contractual transport of children and / or vulnerable adults.	Agree and amend policy
332.	New paragraph added explaining impact of having a driver licence revoked will not automatically prevent someone from holding an operator's licence	Statutory Standards	Agree	
335.	Paragraph deleted as deadline to attend	N/A	Agree	

	safeguarding training no longer relevant			
336.	New paragraph added informing operators that they cannot pass on their safeguarding obligations if they outsource a booking.	Statutory Standards	Agree	
343 - 352	New section added explaining the new Tax Conditionality requirements for tax checks	New legal requirement	Agree	
353.	Application procedure amended to include production of: • Basic DBS disclosure • Certificate of good character • Tax check • Policy on employing ex- offenders	Statutory Standards New legal requirement	Agree	
354.	Recommendation added that renewal applications be made at least one month before a licence is due to expire as legislation does not allow for continuity of licence	N/A	Noted	
357.	New provision on the issuing of a short term licence, "without prejudice", when a renewal application is received and there are grounds for concern that	N/A	Agree, but might also want to consider unreported decision of Nottingham Crown Court in Cartledge v Gedling Borough Council,	Noted but do not believe it is necessary to include reference to case

	delays determination of that application.			
374.	Requirement to notify changes in directors o partners added	r Standar	ds	
SECTION 7	CONVICT CHARAC	IONS, CAUTIO TER	NS, AND	
Para.	Revision	Source	Trade Comments	Response
•	Vehicle proprietors added to list	Statutory Standards	Agree	
404.	"that pose no risk to the public and have no links to serious criminal activity" added	Statutory Standards	Agree	
406 - 410	New paragraphs added explaining reason for checking vehicle proprietors and options available to the council in respect of vehicle licences.	Statutory Standards Legislation	Agree	
411.	"and safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and the vulnerable." added	Statutory Standards	Agree	
413.	Wording amended to include convictions for exploitation, or a crime resulting in the death or intended to cause the death or serious	Statutory Standards	Agree	

419.	injury of another person, or if they appear on the children and adults barred list, applicants will not be licensed Convictions for		itute of	Agi	ree	
	attempt or conspiracy will be regarded as convictions for the substantive crime	guic	ensing lance			
425; 426.	New paragraphs added on fitness tests for private hire operators and vehicle proprietors	Lice	tute of nsing lance	Agr	ee	
429.	New paragraph added explaining "balance of probability"		utory ndards	Agr	ee	
SECTION 8	- OFFENCES	EN	FORCEME	ENT,	DISCIPLINE AND	
Para.	Revision		Source	;	Trade Comments	
434.	"and to revoke driver licences with immediate effect if it is considered that it is in the interests of public safety." added		Legal adv	ice	Agree	
437.	of public safety." added Members of the Licensing Committee required to undertake training added		Statutory Standards	6	Agree	
481.	Option to attend Drive Improvement Scheme		Legal adv	ice	Agree	

existing drivers incurring 9 penalty points for minor traffic offences reduced to 6 points. N/A Noted 489. Procedure for suspending or revoking a driver with immediate effect updated. N/A Noted 492; 493 New paragraphs added on procedure for reissuing a licence or lifting of a suspension Statutory Standards Agree SECTION - COMPLAINTS 10 - COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE - Trade Comments Response 525. Complaints will be recorded and monitored to identify trends or patterns of behaviour added Statutory Standards Agree 40 - Trade Comments Response	
traffic offences reduced to 6 points.N/ANoted489.Procedure for suspending or revoking a driver with immediate effect updated.N/ANoted492; 493New paragraphs added on procedure for reissuing a licence or lifting of a suspensionStatutory StandardsAgreeSECTION 10- COMPLAINTS PROCEDURESourceTrade CommentsPara.RevisionSource StandardsTrade Comments525.Complaints will be recorded and monitored to identify trends or patterns of behaviour addedStatutory StandardsAgreeAppendixConditions of Private Hire Vehicle LicenceStatutory StandardsAgree	
to 6 points.Image: constraint of the second sec	
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Para. Revision Source Trade Response	
Comments	
6. Period to notify council Statutory Agree	
of convictions etc. Standards	
reduced from 7 days to	
48 hours	
8. New duty to notify any Statutory Agree	
change in directors or Standards	
partners when	
applicable within 7 days	
to enable DBS checks	
Appendix Conditions of Licence	
C Hackney Carriage	
Vehicle	

Para.	Revision	Source	Trade Comments	Response
7.	Period to notify council of convictions etc. reduced from 7 days to 48 hours	Statutory Standards	Agree	
9.	New duty to notify any change in directors or partners when applicable within 7 days to enable DBS checks	Statutory Standards	Agree	
Appendix D	Vehicle Testing Arrangements			
Para.	Revision	Source	Trade Comments	Response
1.15	Tinted window specification revised	New policy adopted following consultation	Agree	
Appendix E	Private Hire Vehicle Exemption Notice	Conditions		
Para.	Revision	Source	Trade Comments	Response
Additional Conditions	Condition removed as no longer applicable following revision of tinted window specification	New policy adopted following consultation	Agree	
Appendix F	Table of Existing Vehicles by Age			
Para.	Revision	Source	Trade Comments	Response
Арре	Statistics updated ndix G Policy on Relevance		Noted	

	Convictions			
Para.	etc. Revision	Source	Trade Comments	Response
Purpose	Use amended to include consideration of an applicant for a private hire or hackney carriage vehicle licence or a private hire operator licence	Statutory Standards	Agree	
Overriding duty	Amended to ensure private hire operators and vehicle proprietors pose no threat to the public and have no links to organised crime and they are entrusted to ensure vehicles and drivers used to carry passengers are licensed and safe	Statutory Standards	Agree	
Information	Basic DBS disclosures	Statutory Standards	Agree	

will be used to determine the suitability of applicants for private hire operator's licences and private hire and hackney carriage vehicle licences added Statement General Statutory Agree amended to Standards include: "A person with a conviction for a crime resulting in death or intention to cause death or serious injury; exploitation (including slavery, child sexual abuse, exploitation, grooming, psychological, emotional or financial abuse); or any

offence involving or

	connected with illegal sexual activity will not be licensed."			
General	Amended to include an applicant who is on the Sex Offenders Register or on any Barred list will not be licensed	Statutory Standards	Agree	
Minor traffic offences	 Applicants with up to 6 valid points may have a licence granted subject to a requirement that they attend a driver improvement course instead of a warning. 7 – 9 points, applicant must show 3 years free from conviction before being considered instead of 	Institute of Licensing Guidance Legal advice	Agree has to be included, but this must be balanced with the need to decide each case on its own merits – after all, a person with a number of convictions for modestly exceeding a speed limit probably poses a much lesser danger to someone who habitually significantly exceeds speed limits.	Matters will be judged on their own merits in line with the policy in accordance with the statutory standards unless a Committee considers there are good reasons/exceptional circumstances to depart from it

referral to the	
Licensing	
Committee	
who could	
grant subject	
to attending a	
driver	
improvement	
course and	
issue a severe	
warning.	
More than 9	
points,	
applicant must	
show 5 years	
free from	
conviction	
before being	
considered	
instead of 12	
months.	
Significant	
history of	
offences or	
disqualification	
through totting	
up procedure,	
applicant to	
demonstrate 5	
years free	
from	
conviction	
instead of	
between 1-3	
years	

(h) Maion traffic afferran	Constitution for	Ctatutam:		Mattern will be independent to income mention in the south the
(b) Major traffic offences	Conviction for use of a	Statutory Standards	Agree has to be included, but this	Matters will be judged on their own merits in line with the policy in accordance with the statutory standards unless a
	mobile phone	Stanuarus	must be	Committee considers there are good reasons/exceptional
	or hand held		balanced with	circumstances to depart from it
	device –		the need to	
	refused until at		decide each	
	least 5 years		case on its own	
	elapsed since		merits – after all,	
	conviction or		a person who	
	completion of		commits a single	
	any sentence		major traffic	
	or driving ban.		offences in	
	Currently 4		exceptional	
	years,		circumstances	
			may present less	
	If applicant	Legal	of a risk than a	
	has an	advice	person who	
	endorsement		repeatedly	
	for a major		commits minor	
	traffic offence		traffic offences,	
	application refused until at		such as	
	least 5 years		exceeding speed limits.	
	have elapsed		mmus.	
	since			
	conviction or			
	completion of			
	any sentence			
	or driving ban.			
	Currently 4			
	years.			
	Endorsements			
	for more than			
	one major			
	traffic offence			
	then this			

	period will be 7 years			
(c) Alcohol Related Offences	Applicants with a conviction for drink driving must show a period of at least 7 years free from conviction since the completion of any sentence or driving ban. Currently 4 years	Statutory Standards	Agree has to be included, but this must be balanced with the need to decide each case on its own merits – after all, a conviction could result from drink spiking, for example.	Matters will be judged on their own merits in line with the policy in accordance with the statutory standards unless a Committee considers there are good reasons/exceptional circumstances to depart from it
(d) Drug related offences	with a conviction for a drug driving offence must show a period of 7 years free from conviction since the completion of any sentence or driving ban imposed. Currently 4 years.	Statutory Standards	Agree has to be included, but this must be balanced with the need to decide each case on its own merits.	Noted
	Applicants with an			

 	-		1
isolated	Statutory		
conviction for	Standards		
possession of			
drugs must			
show a period			
of 5 years free			
from			
conviction			
since the			
completion of			
any sentence			
imposed.			
Currently 3			
years.			
,			
If the			
conviction			
relates to the	Statutory		
supply of	Standards		
controlled			
drugs or			
possession			
with intention			
to supply or			
production of			
controlled			
drugs the			
application will			
be refused			
until at least			
10 years have			
elapsed since			
the completion			
of any			
sentence.			
Currently an			
application will			
be refused.			
501010000.			

(f) Violence	Where an	Statutory	Agree has to be	Matters will be judged on their own merits in line with the
	applicant has	Standards included, but this		policy in accordance with the statutory standards unless a
	a conviction	Stanuarus	must be	Committee considers there are good reasons/exceptional
	for an offence		balanced with	circumstances to depart from it
	of violence		the need to	
			decide each	
	against a		case on its own	
	person, or			
	connected		merits – after all,	
	with any		a person with a	
	offence of		caution for a	
	violence a		common assault	
	licence will not		when they have	
	be granted		used more than	
	until at least		reasonable force	
	10 years have		when acting in	
	elapsed since		self-defence	
	the completion		does not pose	
	of ant		the same risk as	
	sentence		someone	
	imposed.		convicted of	
	Currently 3 –		causing grievous	
	10 years		bodily harm with	
	depending		a weapon they	
	upon the		were carrying.	
	offence.			
Possession of a weapon	Where an	Statutory	Agree has to be	Matters will be judged on their own merits in line with the
	applicant has	Standards	included, but this	policy in accordance with the statutory standards unless a
	a conviction		must be	Committee considers there are good reasons/exceptional
	for possession		balanced with	circumstances to depart from it
	of a weapon or		the need to	
	any other		decide each	
	weapon		case on its own	
	related offence		merits – after all,	
	a licence will		a person with a	
	not be granted		caution for	
	until at least 7		carrying a Swiss	
	years free		Army knife with	

u o fr c h s c a	be granted until a period of 7 years free rom conviction have elapsed since the completion of any sentence mposed has		caution for racism, when their comments were self- deprecating, is not the same as when racism is used threateningly and	
Discrimination V a a ir b Discrimination V a a ir c w d d ir i i i i i i i i i b b b b b b b b b	have elapsed since the completion of any sentence mposed has been added. Where an applicant has a conviction nvolving or connected with discrimination n any form a icence will not	Statutory Standards	the same risk as a person carrying a machete, flick knife, lock knife or the like. Agree has to be included, but this must be balanced with the need to decide each case on its own merits – after all, a person with a	

	5 years to 7 years		decide each case on its own merits – after all, a person with a caution for stealing food out of necessity is very different to those that planned and executed the Hatton Garden safety deposit burglary.	
Immigration	Where a licence holder has been served with an immigration penalty or convicted of an immigration offence the licence will be revoked immediately has been added	Statutory Standards and Home Office Guidance	Agree has to be included, but this must be balanced with the need to decide each case on its own merits.	Council will not depart from statutory standards unless exceptional circumstances warrant such a decision.
(h) Licensing offences	Period free from conviction changed from 3 years to 7 years	Institute of Licensing Guidance	Agree has to be included, but this must be balanced with the need to decide each case on its own merits.	Noted

Appendix H	Conditions of Private Hire Drivers Licence				
Para.	Revision	Source	Trade Comments		Response
8.	Convictions, charges arrests etc. to be notified to the Council within 48 hrs instead of 7 days	Statutory Standards	Agree		
Appendix I	Council Policies in Carriage Drivers	respect of Hackney			
Para.	Revision	Source	Trade Comments		Response
8.	Convictions, charges arrests etc. to be notified to the Council within 48 hrs instead of 7 days	Statutory Standards	Agree		
Appendix K	Code of Cond working with V Passeng	ulnerable			
Para.	Revisio		Source	Trade Comments	Response
•	Warning signs o Lines" exploitation	on added	Statutory Standards	Agree	
Appendix L	Conditions o Hire O	of Private perator's	Licence		
Para.	Revisio	n	Source	Trade Comments	Response
I (a).	Ensure that all v and drivers used private hire bool	d to fulfil	Statutory Standards	Agree has to be included, but suggest requirement should be to use best endeavours,	Case pre dates statutory standards

	hold appropriate and valid licences added.		applying comments made by the High Court in R (Blueline Taxis) v Northumberland County Council [2012] EWHC 1539 (Admin) at para 67.	
2.	Requirement to formulate and apply a policy on assessing the suitability of any person taking bookings or dispatching vehicles added.	Statutory Standards	Agree	
3.	Requirements relating to maintaining a register of all staff responsible for taking bookings and/or dispatching vehicles added.	Statutory Standards	Agree	
5(c).	Requirement to evidence safeguarding protections are applied by any company to which the operator outsource a booking or dispatch function.	Statutory Standards	Agree	
6.	Requirement to include name of person(s) who responded to a booking request and dispatched vehicle to booking records added.	Statutory Standards	Agree, but should acknowledge that bookings are usually dispatched automatically by the computer system, without dispatcher intervention	Agree to amend
8.	Use of drugs or alcohol added to list of complaints.		Agree	

13.	Convictions, charges arrests etc. to be notified to the Council within 48 hrs instead of 7 days	Statutory Standards	Agree	
20.	Operator to inform hirer when a PSV is being used that the driver is subject to different checks and is not required to have an enhanced DBS check.	Statutory Standards	Agree	