

# *Tendring District Council*

## *Taxi News*

Website Version

*July 2023*

### **Taxi Policy – Consultation Survey**

Thank you to those who commented on the taxi policy pre consultation earlier in the year.

The draft taxi / private hire policy has now been discussed with the Licensing and Registration Committee of the Council and following its recommendations, officers have put together a consultation survey which focusses on the proposed policy and specific options to explore. The draft policy is important, we hope that you will read it and submit comments. Likewise on the small number of additional matters included in the survey we would like to hear your views before the policy is finalised and adopted. It will not be adopted until Councillors have considered all the comments received.

A number of the proposals in the draft policy are highlighted below for your information:

- Knowledge test reviewed – resit after failure. Currently a 30 day wait with the proposal to reduce this to 14 days.
- Vehicles must meet the Euro 6 Standards. The proposal of extending maximum age of vehicles by a further 2 years.
- Enforcement & Compliance – Your views are invited by the Council on moving from the three warnings in 12 months to a points based system, which will allow minor breaches of the rules to be recorded and considered in context, while referring those with persistent or serious breaches to the Miscellaneous Licensing Sub Committee for Councillors to determine whether they should continue to be licensed. The aim would be to ensure that minor misdemeanours are allocated low numbers of points and acts/omissions which have a clear safety concern are allocated a higher number of points. A driver who breach a points total to have the Licence reviewed.
- Seating Capacity and accessibility reviewed.
- Identification of licensed vehicles. Again, your views are invited on proposals with further details in the survey.
- Child Sexual Exploitation and Vulnerable Persons training to be carried out to all drivers.

The draft policy and consultation survey are available for taxi/private hire licence holders, stakeholders, and general public to submit their comments on the proposals/option no later than 20 September 2023.

Are you representing drivers?

As part of the consultation, Members of the Committee have invited those representing drivers to attend a session where you can express your comments around the proposed policy. If you are interested in being invited to this session, please confirm your details to the licensing office by email [taxi@tendringdc.gov.uk](mailto:taxi@tendringdc.gov.uk) by no later than 14 August 2023. The meeting will be limited to numbers and its focus will be the draft policy. It will be held after 14 August but before 20 September.

The draft policy and survey will be available on the Tendring District Council's website <https://www.tendringdc.gov.uk/consultation> . You can also view this by using the QR code below.

The results of the consultation will be reported back to the Licensing and Registration Committee for appraisal and appropriate amendments before the policy is formally adopted. The policy will then remain in existence for a period of five years with interim reviews should the Committee determine the need to.

Please note that until such times as the draft policy is adopted, the existing conditions and policy remains in existence and must not be mistaken for this draft.

