

TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL
LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE

22 JUNE 2026

PART I

Report Title	Review of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy
Purpose	To obtain approval for the attached draft Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy go out to consultation to the trade and those who use the facilities.
Recommendation(s)	The Committee RESOLVES to: Comment on the draft policy and approve to go out to consultation.
Financial Implications	Licensing is self-financed by the licence fees.
Legal Implications	
Risk Assessment	That all reasonable steps are in place to ensure public safety.
Environmental/Climate Change Implications	These have been considered in discussion with William Elliott
Report Author	Andrea Furness, Licensing Manager licensing@teignbridge.gov.uk
Appendices / Background Papers	A: Draft Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy. B: Summary of Comparison between current and draft Policy.

1. RELEVANT POLICY AND LAW

1.1 The Council is responsible for licensing hackney carriage and private hire vehicles, drivers and operators within the district. The main purpose of the licensing regime is to protect the public by ensuring that drivers are suitable, vehicles are safe and well maintained, and operators meet appropriate standards.

1.2 The current Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy was introduced in 2009 and has been updated over time. However, it has not been subject to a full review. Since then, there have been significant changes in national guidance, legislation, safeguarding expectations and environmental considerations. It is therefore appropriate to review and update the policy to ensure it remains clear, effective and fit for purpose.

- 1.3 The draft policy brings together the relevant legal requirements, national guidance and local licensing conditions. It aims to provide a stronger and more consistent framework for decision-making, enforcement and public protection. The proposed changes include clearer expectations around driver suitability, operator responsibilities, vehicle standards, safeguarding, emissions, training and record keeping.
- 1.4 Members are asked to consider the draft policy and agree whether it should proceed to formal consultation. Consultation will allow licence holders, partner organisations, service users and other interested parties to comment before a final version is brought back to Members for consideration and approval.
- 1.5 Consultation will be carried out with those set out below:
- Hackney Carriage proprietors / drivers
 - Private Hire Operators / drivers
 - Parish / Town Councils
 - Devon and Cornwall Police
 - Newton Abbot Strategy & Projects Officer
 - Newton Abbot Racecourse
 - Exeter Racecourse
 - Age Concern
 - Teign Housing
 - Devon County Council Transport and Roads
 - Devon County Council School Transport
 - Community Transport Dawlish
 - Shopmobility NA
 - Mobility shop NA
 - Ring & Ride NA
 - Disabled Persons Advisory Committee
 - Community Partnership
 - DVSA
 - Acorn Community Support
 - Guide Dogs
 - Shopmobility Teignmouth
 - Teignbridge Assist
 - Teignbridge CVS
 - Chamber of Trade NA
 - Chamber of Trade Dawlish
 - Chamber of Trade Teignmouth
 - Devon Communities Together
 - Newton Abbot Community Interest Company
 - Newton Abbot Community Transport
 - Job Centre
 - Young Devon
 - Active Devon
 - Newton Abbot College
 - Stover School
 - Teign School
 - Teignmouth Community School
 - Coombeshead Academy

- Ilington C of E primary school
- The Link Academy
- South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership
- Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust - Non Executive Director for Teignbridge

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be some costs arising from the production and circulation of this document, if copies are requested, but it is felt that this could be absorbed within the existing budget.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- That Members determine whether the draft policy should proceed to formal consultation, subject to any amendments identified by the Committee; and
- That Members request a further report following consultation, summarising responses, recommended amendments and the final policy for approval to recommend to Full Council for adoption.

Wards affected	All
Contact for more information	Mrs Andrea Furness
Background Papers (For Part I reports only)	Town Police Clauses Act 1847 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Transport Act 1980 Department of Transport Best Practice Guidance 2023 Department of Transport Statutory National Standards Institute of Licensing Suitability Guidance 2024
Key Decision	No
In Forward Plan	Yes
In O&S Work Programme	No