

## **APPENDIX 1 – Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Drivers Licences – Proposed Amendments**

<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Trade Comment</u>
<p>1. There are separate Licences in place for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers.</p> <p>An additional £50 Licence Fee is levied for any driver who wishes to be licensed for both.</p> <p>There are 12 drivers who currently hold both HC and PH Drivers Licences</p>	<p>To issue a Dual Licence for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers combined.</p> <p>One Licence fee would be applicable.</p>	<p>Of 297,000 Driver Licences issued nationally, 63,000 are for HC only and 78,000 are for Dual HC/PH.</p> <p>The trend for issuing Dual Licences is increasing, since 2011 a growth of 3.8% nationally.</p> <p>Rochford, Castle Point and Basildon District Councils issue Dual Licences locally with one fixed fee.</p> <p>Dual Licences reduce the administrative burden of issuing separate licences.</p> <p>The process for applying for either HC or PH Driver Licence is the same and criticism has been raised in the past in respect of any additional fee for issuing of both licences as no additional administration is involved.</p>	<p>SLTDA declined to comment at the consultation meeting, wanting to take it back to their Committee.</p> <p>Other members at the consultation meeting were enthusiastic about the proposal and were positive about the opportunities this presented for drivers.</p>

<p>2. A limited list of examples of relevant offences to be taken into account when issuing a Licence is included on the Driver Licence Application Form in respect of whether a person is fit and proper to hold a Licence.</p>	<p>A more comprehensive list of relevant offences has been included. (See 10.1 – 10.7)</p>	<p>This provides a more flexible approach for the trade to cover all driver requirements including driver absence for schools / social services contracts for example.</p>	<p>Positive.</p>
<p>3. No clarity is contained in respect of the consequence of previous convictions.</p>	<p>Clarity in terms of how the Local Authority may use its discretion in respect of previous convictions and may refuse to issue or revoke an existing licence accordingly. (See 10.7)</p>	<p>This provides more clarity for the Applicant in terms of any previous convictions which are relevant for the purposes of issuing a Driver Licence.</p> <p>Assists the Applicant with their application in respect of previous convictions and assists officers in progressing applications.</p>	<p>Positive</p>