

## Department of Place

To all Bradford Council Hackney Carriage  
and Private Hire Licenced Drivers

Fleet & Transport - HCPH  
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Shearbridge Road  
Bradford  
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### **PROPOSED NEW POLICY FOR DRIVERS**

Bradford Council would welcome your thoughts on the introduction of the following new policy:

#### **Determining the Suitability of Applicants and Licensees as drivers in Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing**

The Council recognises that the role of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers is a professional one. They are often the first point of contact for visitors to the district; provide the public with vital and recreational transport options and frequently transport many of our most vulnerable citizens.

The Institute of Licensing (IOL) and Local Government Association (LGA) have produced national best practice guidance on determining the suitability of applicants as licensed drivers. Bradford has been working closely with Calderdale, Leeds, Kirklees, Wakefield and York Councils with a view to adopting this as a common policy.

The reason for adopting a common policy across West Yorkshire is to ensure consistency and thereby reassure members of the public that all local licenced drivers are deemed suitable against the same policy/criteria. Licenced Operators may contract work across Local Authority boundaries and it is therefore important each Authority works to the same or similar standards when licensing drivers in order to protect the public.

Please read the attached documentation carefully. We would welcome your feedback which you can do by entering the following address <https://surveys.bradford.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=154169832117> into your web browser and taking part in the survey. If you are unsure how to do this then please don't hesitate to speak to your Licenced Operator or family members who may be more familiar with the use of the internet and on-line surveys.

Due to the large number of people expected to take part in this survey, we are only able to offer on-line participation. We have enclosed a copy of the policy and questions overleaf to allow you to prepare in advance of going on-line.

The Engagement Survey closes on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

Best regards,  
Carol Stos  
Licensing Service Manager

## **Questions available online**

1. I am taking part in this survey as:
2. Do you think Bradford should bring in a new Policy to make sure the travelling public are confident licenced drivers are suitable for their role and the standards applied are the same across all areas?
3. Do you think that a new policy should allow currently licenced drivers to continue driving if they already hold more penalty points or have a conviction which would contravene the stricter requirements of a new policy?
4. Crimes resulting in death of another person or was intended to cause the death or serious injury to another person - New Licences will not be granted. Existing licences will be taken away.
5. Exploitation - New Licences will not be granted. Existing licences will be taken away.
6. Offences involving violence – A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 10 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
7. Possession of a weapon or any other weapon related offence – A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 7 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
8. Sex and indecency Offences - New Licences will not be granted. Existing licences will be taken away.
9. Dishonesty Offences - A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 7 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
10. Drugs supply - A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 10 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
11. Drugs use - A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 5 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
12. Discrimination – any conviction involving or connected with discrimination in any form - A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 7 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
13. Driving under the influence of drugs/alcohol - A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 7 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
14. Driving whilst using a hand-held telephone or other device - A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 5 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
15. Minor traffic or vehicle related offences - A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 5 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
16. Major traffic or vehicle related offences - A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 7 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
17. Serious hackney carriage and private hire offences (e.g. plying for hire, driving without a HCPH Licence) - A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 7 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
18. Vehicle use offences - A licence will not be granted for a minimum of 7 years. Existing licences will be taken away.
19. Do you agree drivers should be required to produce a certificate of good conduct?
20. Do you have any other comments or suggestions in relation to the questions on this survey (comments not relating to this survey will not be considered)?