

DECISION SHEET / RECORD OF DECISION

ISSUE

The Council's Taxi Licensing Policy allows for a restricted licence to be issued for some Private Hire Driver's where they only carry out a specific activity e.g. school runs, corporate work etc. As part of the process for this there are certain requirements that applicants are not required to complete as they are not relevant to the type of work they do e.g. topographical test.

Currently the taxi licensing policy requires these drivers to pass the numeracy test the same as those applying for full licences, and doing public work. However for a number of the types of restricted work carried out, there is no cash handling as the work is all paid on an account basis directly to the operator e.g. school runs.

There is currently a shortage of drivers for carrying out home to school transport, and in Rushmoor we have a large number of applicants applying for restricted licences for this activity only. In some cases, passing the numeracy test is causing a delay to getting people licensed and able to carry out school runs. Given that the drivers are not required to deal with money at all this is an unnecessary delay and requirement.

DECISION (Please give final decision)

To remove the requirement for applicants for a restricted private hire driver's licence, where the nature of the work they would be restricted to means that they will not be required to take money as part of their role e.g., school runs, for the applicant to provide evidence that they meet the numeracy standards detailed in the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy, with immediate effect for any current applications and / or new applications received from this date.

To add an additional condition to any restricted private hire driver that is granted without the numeracy requirements being met as follows "No payments may be taken directly by the licence holder in respect of any licensable activity carried out by virtue of this licence".

GROUND(S) / REASON(S) FOR DECISION

The number of restricted licence applications that the Council are receiving has increased, in particular in relation to school runs. The requirement to meet the numeracy standard is not relevant to a number of types of work carried out under restricted licences, and therefore is not appropriate in those circumstances, and may cause an unnecessary barrier to entry or delay in becoming licensed.

The condition added to the licence will ensure that those applicants are not taking payment without their numeracy skills having been demonstrated, therefore there is no risk to the passengers.

TO BE COMPLETED BY DECISION MAKER

Signature (Decision Maker)

Date: 11/3/2022 (Decision Maker)

Name in CAPITALS: (Decision Maker) MARILYN SHEEHAN

Designation: (Decision Maker) OPERATIONAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER

