

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

IMPLICATIONS/CONSULTATIONS

<p>Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/ Objectives (<i>delete as appropriate</i>):</p>	<p>Priority 1 – Improve the health and wellbeing of our communities</p> <p>Priority 2 – Enhance the quality of people's lives; and</p> <p>Priority 3 – Enable a flourishing local economy</p>
<p>Consultation:</p>	<p>An 8 week consultation was undertaken.</p> <p>Any revision of the Policies in relation Hackney Carriage and Private Hire licensing that the Authority seeks to rely upon must be subject to public consultation. All responses to be considered by Licensing Committee before endorsing a final document for approval by Council.</p>
<p>Legal:</p>	<p>Decisions based on the Suitability Policy are open to challenge through an appeal to magistrates court. Once in place the policy could be challenged via Judicial Review.</p>
<p>Financial:</p>	<p>If the policy was challenged then there would be cost implications in defending that challenge.</p>
<p>Human Resource:</p>	<p>No issues identified by report author or contact officer</p>
<p>Risk Management:</p>	<p>Without a comprehensive Suitability Policy in place there is a chance that a person who is not 'fit and proper' may obtain a licence.</p> <p>Were this to happen then the Authority could be open to criticism similar to that aimed at Rotherham in the Casey report.</p>
<p>Health and wellbeing – issues and impacts:</p>	<p>By ensuring that those people licensed by East Herts are 'fit and proper' to hold and continue to hold a licence we can improve the health and wellbeing of individuals in East Herts.</p> <p>It is particularly relevant for those most vulnerable sections of the community who place their trust in the licensed taxi trade, and by default, East Herts Council.</p>