

Committee: Licensing & Environmental Health
Title: Review of Driver Training Course Deferral
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Summary

1.1. The purpose of this report is to brief Members on the outcome of the 6 month deferral made to specified Private Hire & Hackney Carriage driver licence renewals from the undertaking of the driver training course and assessment.

Recommendations

2.1. It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report.

Financial Implications

3.1. None

Background Papers

4.1. None

Impact

5.1.

Communication/Consultation	None
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal Implications	None
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	None

Situation

6.1. Members will be aware that at the Licensing & Environmental Health Committee of the 16 November 2021, the proposal to permit holders of Private Hire & Hackney Carriage driver licences which were due to expire between specified timeframes from undertaking the Green Penny driver training course for a maximum of 6 months, was agreed.

6.2. In short summary, any licence due to expire between the 30 November 2021 and 30 June 2022 inclusive was given a maximum 6 month deferral period from successfully passing the driver training course provided by Green Penny. This was agreed to primarily as a result of the financial burden that was upon the taxi and private hire trade arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.

6.3. A total of 243 Private Hire and Hackney Carriage driver licences were renewed during this period. 79 (33%) of those have taken advantage of the deferral period and will be expected to have completed the course by the maximum 6 months deadline applicable to them. This means that 164 of the 243 (67%) successfully completed the course as part of their renewal application.

6.4. Licensing Officers are pleased to report that despite the potential impacts to Green Penny, the business was not adversely affected by the course deferrals. This is perhaps evidenced by the statistics listed above which show that the majority of renewal applicants chose to undergo the training course in the normal fashion.

6.5. The decision by the Committee was with the intention of being a one-time deferral, and Licensing Officers have no recommendations for further extending it.