

Wheelchair Accessible Taxis – Fitness of Taxi Drivers

Licensing Sub-Committee

17th August 2011

Purpose of report

- 1 To seek a decision from the Committee in relation to requests from taxi drivers for exemption from compliance with Condition 129 of the Council's Standard Licensing Conditions for Taxis, Private Hire Cars, Taxi Drivers and Private Hire Car Drivers.

Main report

- 2 At its meeting held on 8 October 1996 the then Licensing Committee resolved to adopt an interim policy that Taxi Drivers in essentially good health, but who had certain clinical conditions which would make pushing a loaded wheelchair into a taxi unwise, be exempted from the requirements of Condition 129 of the Council's Standard Conditions for the Licensing of Taxis, Private Hire Cars, Taxi Drivers and Private Hire Car Drivers. This would be for such period as the Committee determines on the basis of a certificate from the Council's medical advisor. On 23 July 1998, following the conclusion of a trial period, the Committee formally adopted the policy.
- 3 Appendix 1 to this Report provides details of taxi drivers who are seeking exemption on the basis of medical fitness. The Council's Medical Advisor, Capita Health Solutions, has recommended that they should be exempted from the requirements of Condition 129, for varying periods as detailed in Appendix 1.
- 4 Copies of Capita reports will be available at committee for inspection, as required.

Financial implications

- 5 There is no financial impact arising from the terms of this report.

Environmental impact

- 6 There is no environmental impact arising from the terms of this report.

Recommendation

- 7 That the Committee grants the exemption for the taxi drivers as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Report.

David Jack
Acting Director of Corporate Services

Appendix	Taxi Drivers seeking exemption – see attached
Contact/tel/email	Donald McLeod, Licensing / Tel. 0131 529 4304 donald.mcleod@edinburgh.gov.uk
Wards affected	City Wide
Background Papers	Conditions for the Licensing of Taxis, Private Hire Cars, Taxi Drivers and Private Hire Car Drivers
Single Outcome Agreement	Supports National Outcome 6 “We live longer, healthier lives” Takes into account Local Outcome requirements relating to improving health and wellbeing – by recognising individual medical requirements of taxi drivers