

Report to Licensing Committee

Report reference: LSC-008-2010/11

Date of meeting: 13th April 2011



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Portfolio: Safer and Greener

Subject: Licensing – Taxi Knowledge Procedure

Officer contact for further information: Kim Tuckey, Senior Licensing Officer

Democratic Services Officer: Adrian Hendry (01992 – 564246).

Recommendations:

That the report is noted by members and the change in procedure agreed.

Report:

At the meeting of the licensing committee in April 2010 it was agreed by members that the new applicants for a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle driver's licence would take the taxi knowledge test before they attended the Licensing Sub-committee.

Since then, an applicant sat the test four times and was then referred to the sub-committee as he had offences on his Criminal Records Bureau check. The applicant was refused a licence. The applicant was extremely aggrieved by the decision as he had had to pay four times to take the test and was refused. The Senior Licensing Officer would ask members to permit her to refer applicants directly to panel if they have a criminal record or endorsements. If members granted the licence it would be subject to the driver passing the test.