



Title: **Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Vehicle Insurance**

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## 1 Introduction

This report concerns an issue surrounding hackney carriage and private hire vehicle insurances.

## 2 Background

Unfortunately it is prevalent amongst some of the Council's licensed drivers to only take out weekly insurance policies. No doubt this facility has a positive effect on a driver's financial affairs but it does raise issues with regards to the effective policing of the arrangement. It also causes extra work for the licensing officers who have to continually re-enter data on the computer system.

## 3 Considerations

Generally insurance policies are taken out for 12 months although when initially purchased a proposer may be given a 28-day cover note. Some drivers, to ease their cash flow, may only pay their premiums on a month by month basis prompting a cover note at each payment date. Several years ago insurance companies would be loath to issue policy certificates for proposers who were paying by instalment. However, with the advent of an industry wide insurance database this appears not be so much of a problem.

## 4 Information

The Council's Hackney Carriage and private Hire Licensing policy states the following:-

'A Hackney Carriage vehicle must be insured for **public hire and reward**, and as a minimum requirement cover the driver for third party fire and theft and also to include legal liability for passengers and luggage.

A Private Hire vehicle must be insured for **private hire and reward** and as a minimum requirement cover the driver for third party fire and theft and also to include legal liability for passengers and luggage.

The Licensing Authority must be satisfied that the vehicle will remain insured for the 12 month duration of its licence. To this end the following insurance requirements apply.

Upon the first application or renewal of a vehicle licence the applicant must:

- Present an insurance certificate of at least six months or
- A temporary insurance cover note to be followed by an insurance certificate lasting 12 months prior to the cover notes expiry, Or;
- Where the proprietor has an ongoing annual insurance certificate; that certificate.'

In view of this policy statement it is clear that, for whatever reason, officers have, until recently, found it necessary to accept 7 days certificates. However, that necessity seems to have passed and current officers will return to the stated Council policy.

Following its consultation an Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken.

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<b>Implications</b>	
Financial (AC)	No Significant Implications
Risk (AC)	No Significant Implications
Equalities (AC)	No Significant Implications
Legal (AC)	No Significant Implications