

To: Committee & Elections Manager

Statement of individual Cabinet Member's decision

Name of Cabinet Member	Councillor Lee Croxton	
Portfolio	Operational Services	
Delegation authority (usually the delegated powers in annex 1.6 and 1.7)	Annex 1.6 and 1.7 of the Constitution	
Cabinet decision date		Minute No _____ or _____

Declaration of Interests (if any) As set out below:

Of the Cabinet Member making the decision Nil

Of any other Cabinet Member consulted in relation to the decision

CLlr Khabra removed himself from this item as he is also a licensed driver, vehicle proprietor and operator in Gravesham.

Topic Review of the Policy for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing

Decision To approve the revised Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy to run from 1 May 2021 until 30 April 2026. (Final version as attached)

Reasons for the decision

Whilst having a policy is discretionary, we publish a policy in the interests of consistency and transparency for the benefit of trade and the travelling public alike.

The current Policy will expire on 30 May and therefore a revised Policy needs to be formally approved and in place w.e.f 1 May 2021.

The new policy represents another significant and positive step forwards in Gravesham's taxi and private hire licensing service and builds on the 2018-21 policy by: incorporating the Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards published in July 2020 to which all Licensing Authorities must have regard in carrying out their licensing function; replacing the mandatory vehicle CCTV requirements with a discretionary policy to take account of the guidance from Information Commissioner's Office; making administrative corrections and appropriate updates to reflect changes in operational processes, etc., and; improving equality and driver expertise by such means as the introduction of mandatory disability awareness training

Amendments to the draft policy were subsequently made in line with the evaluation grid, as agreed, and the updated policy is now attached as a final approved version.

Other options considered (if any): Nil

I confirm that this decision is:

Please mark/tick

- In accordance with the council's Policy Framework
- Within the council's approved budget
- In compliance with the council's contract procedure rules
- In compliance with the council's financial procedure rules
- In accordance with the protocol for Cabinet member decisions

Background papers used (if any)

Committee Reports to the Operational Services Cabinet Committee on 17 November 2020 and 24 March 2021.

Signature (countersigned by Executive Leader if a Key Decision)	Date: 22-4-21
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All decisions must be made in accordance with the decision-making rules laid down in the constitution and must be in compliance with the policy framework, the approved budget, contract procedure rules and financial procedure rules.

The allocations of areas of responsibility to Lead Members and their delegated powers are laid out in annex 1.6 and 1.7 and may only be exercised accordingly. The Executive Leader is entitled to change the allocation of portfolios to Lead Members at any time.

In addition to the above, further delegations may be made from time to time.

Key decisions may not be made by individual Cabinet Members other than the Executive Leader. In the case of a Key Decision recommended by a Cabinet Member, the Executive Leader's countersignature will be required in order to effect the decision.

The Chief Executive was given delegated authority to respond to consultation documents on behalf of the Cabinet in consultation with the appropriate portfolio holder at the Cabinet meeting on 7 March 2011.

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.