

**Report of the Service Director to the  
General Licensing Regulatory Board  
to be held on the 20 February 2019**

**Department for Transport Consultation**

**1. Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report, is to inform Members and seek views on the draft statutory guidance to taxi and private hire vehicle (PHV) licensing authorities on the use of their licensing powers to protect children and vulnerable adults.

**2. Background**

The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport - Nusrat Ghani MP, launched a consultation on the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019 seeking views on draft statutory guidance to taxi and private hire vehicle (PHV) licensing authorities their use of licensing powers to protect children and vulnerable adults. This consultation ends on 22 April 2019.

**3. Current Position**

The Policing and Crime Act 2017 enables the Secretary of State for Transport to issue Statutory Guidance on exercising taxi and PHV licensing functions to protect children and vulnerable individuals who are over 18 from harm when using these services.

There is a consensus that common core minimum standards are required to regulate better the taxi and PHV sector, and the recommendations in this document are the result of detailed discussion and consideration.

This new statutory guidance reflects the significant changes in the industry and lessons learned from experiences in local areas since the Departments Best Practise Guidance was last updated in 2010.

#### **4. Proposal**

Members are asked to consider the consultation document and provide any views to the Licensing Officer in writing no later than 17:00 on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

#### **5. Recommendation**

That Members consider the consultation document and respond accordingly.

#### **6. Officer Contact**

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