

Report to: Licensing Committee

Date: 16 January 2023

Title: Implementation for CCTV in Taxi and Private Hire Vehicles

Report of: Director of Service Delivery

Ward(s): All

Purpose of report: To ask Members to agree an implementation date for mandatory CCTV in Hackney and Private Hire Vehicles.

Officer recommendation: 1. To agree an implementation date of 1st May 2023 for CCTV to be a mandatory requirement in Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Taxi Vehicles.

Reasons for recommendations: For Members to agree an implementation date for mandatory CCTV in Hackney and Private Hire Vehicles as part of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Guidance.

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Eastbourne Borough Council is responsible for the licensing of drivers, vehicles and operators in relation to the hackney carriage and private hire trade.
- 1.2 In exercising its discretion in carrying out its licensing functions, the Licensing Authority shall have regard to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Guidance. In relation to CCTV requirements Members are referred to pages 7/8/9 of the Guidance.
- 1.3 As a responsible licensing authority Eastbourne Borough Council seeks to carry out its licensing functions. The mandatory installation of CCTV for Hackney Carriages and Private Hire vehicles was agreed in principle by Members on 24 May 2021.
- 1.4 In implementing CCTV in licensed vehicles, further objectives can be met:
- The protection of licensed drivers.
 - The protection of the travelling public.
 - To ensure that licensed drivers continue to be 'fit and proper' in line with licence conditions.
 - To enable investigations to be fully supported with evidence in a secure and retrievable form.

1.5 Members had requested that once quotations for CCTV had been received that the information be presented to the Licensing Committee and a subsequent implementation date agreed.

2 Quotations received from Suppliers

2.1 Quotations have been received from four companies.

The quotations are for a two camera CCTV System which is in keeping with the approach taken by other Sussex Authorities, and are set out at:

- Appendix 1 - Motocam
- Appendix 2 - Radio Relay
- Appendix 3 - Autotex
- Appendix 4 - ACSS

2.2 Table of Supplier Quotations:

	Motocam.co.uk	Radio relay	Autotex	ACSS
	Price Excludes VAT	Price Excludes VAT	Price Includes VAT	Price Excludes VAT
Unit	£470.00	£392.50	£376.00	£285.00
Installation	£150.00	£65.00	£149.00	£160.00 Potential discount on number of vehicles and certain timings of appointments
Total	£620.00	£457.50	£525.00	£445.00
Lease	Options available	£3.99 per week		

3 Background

3.1 There is no doubt a vulnerability relating to Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (PHV). Members of the public entering a Taxi/ PHV put themselves under the control of a stranger in a confined space with no physical control over where they are taken. Furthermore, drivers also trust members of the public in their vehicles, often transporting passengers during unsocial hours, and on poorly lit routes.

3.2 CCTV systems can act as an additional safeguard, providing protection, confidence, and reassurance to the public when they are travelling in a taxi or PHV, as well as to drivers who can also be victims of violence, and abuse. CCTV systems can act as a deterrent to those with intentions of committing an offence and where an offence has been committed recordings can capture evidence which may be in both a criminal and enforcement.

4 Recommendations

4.1 Members are recommended to approve that an implementation date of 1st May 2023 for mandatory CCTV to be a requirement in all licensed vehicles. Up until this date the information provided from 4 providers will be shared with the trade and they will be encouraged to seek installation as soon as is practicable for them. For those vehicles that have a CCTV system installed before the implementation of compulsory CCTV those systems may be allowed at the discretion of an Authorised Officer.

5 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no significant resource implications for the Council as the time involved will be met from allocation of current resources and the costs of mandatory CCTV systems will be met by the proprietor/vehicle licence holder.

6 Legal implications

6.1 The Legal Section considered this Report on 22 December 2022 (Iken 11331-EBC-MW).

7 Risk management implications

7.1 There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

8 Equality analysis

8.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

9 Environmental sustainability implications

9.1 There are no environmental sustainability implications arising from this report.

10 Appendices

- 10.1
- Appendix 1 – Motocam Quotation
 - Appendix 2 - Radio Relay Quotation
 - Appendix 3 – Autotex Quotation
 - Appendix 4 – ACSS Quotation

11 Background papers

The background papers used in compiling this report were as follows:

- [Eastbourne Borough Council Hackney and Private Hire Licensing Guidance 2022](#)
- [Developing an approach to mandatory CCTV in taxis and PHV's local Government Association January 2019](#)
- [Department of Transport Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards July 2010](#)
- EBC CCTV Data Protection Assessment