

## RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN UNDER EMERGENCY URGENCY POWERS

### SUMMARY OF DECISION TO BE TAKEN:

To permit the installation and use of protective screens within Crawley Borough Councils hackney carriage and private hire vehicle fleet in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This measure will remain as an option for the Trade to install subject to a series of recommendations whilst social distancing rules remain and/or the measure is fully implemented as part of wider vehicle conditions and the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

**ASSOCIATED COMMITTEE:** Licensing Committee.

### RELEVANT PERSONS CONSULTED:

- Councillor Jones, Chair of the Licensing Committee has indicated his support.
- Councillor Ayling, Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee – no response was received.
- Councillor Jhans, Portfolio Holder has indicated his support.
- Councillor Lamb, Leader of the Council has indicated his support.

Consultation was undertaken on: 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

### DECISION MADE:

That the installation and use of protective screens within Crawley Borough Councils hackney carriage and private hire vehicle fleet be permitted in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

That the measure remain as an option for the Trade to install subject to a series of recommendations whilst social distancing rules remain and/or the measure is fully implemented as part of wider vehicle conditions and the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

**REASONS FOR DECISION AND FURTHER INFORMATION:** Whilst there is no empirical evidence that protective screens are effective in stopping the spread of COVID-19, the correct installation, use and cleansing of the screen provides a protective barrier between licensed drivers and passengers. It is suggested that this offers an additional protection against the transmission of viruses.

The use of protective screens is also broadly supported by the Local Government Association and other Trade bodies as one measure to limit the spread of viruses, set alongside an effective cleansing regime, alongside the option for all parties within a vehicle to wear face masks and other Personal Protective Equipment.

I hereby agree that I will take the decision as set out above, for the reasons detailed, under the Council's Emergency Urgency Powers.



**Chief Executive**  
**Date: 10 June 2020**