



**NORTHAMPTON  
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**20 JANUARY 2016**

**BRIEFING NOTE:**

**SCRUTINY PANEL 3 –  
THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ENFORCEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY IN  
RESPECT OF TAXIS AND PRIVATE HIRE**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Since the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Scrutiny Panel has continued with its evidence gathering with meetings held on 26 November 2015 and 7 January 2016.

**2 UPDATE**

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Scrutiny Panel held on 26 November 2015, the Scrutiny Panel received responses to its core questions from a variety of key expert advisors:

Chair, Hackney Carriage Association  
Chair, Private Hire Association  
A number of Private Hire Operators

- 2.2 The Scrutiny Panel also received a briefing paper that detailed précises of various pieces of Legislation. The Scrutiny Panel finalised the date of a further site visit – mid December.

- 2.3 At the meeting held on 7 January 2016, the Scrutiny Panel heard evidence from:

Community Engagement Manager, Northants Highways, NCC  
Licensing Sergeant, Northants Police

- 2.4 The Deputy Chair reported back on the findings from the recent site visits. The Scrutiny Panel received briefing notes about Taxi Marshals, licensing conditions elsewhere and taxi and private hire licence data.

- 2.5 It is envisaged that this Scrutiny review will conclude in March 2016, with the report of the Scrutiny Panel presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting scheduled for 11 April 2016.

**3 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 That the update is noted.

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8 January 2016