

Appendix C

Training Consultation: Email Responses

Response From:	Response Details:	Officer Response:	Change to policy:
<p>Profound Services</p>	<p>At Profound Services we were heavily involved in the driver training for not only NVQ but VRQ. Since the funding changed at the turn of last academic year it has been a lot harder to fund the NVQ/VRQ. In the North East we have successfully been running employment route ways in assisting people with the funded VRQ training and also we have gained funding to pay for new drivers badges and any costs a new driver may incur as part of the badge process.</p> <p>At the moment we are trying to consult with taxi companies in Leeds and the Yorkshire area to gauge where the vacancies are to promote this across all of the local job centres to get new trained drivers in Leeds and surrounding areas as this has been a huge success in the North East at the moment out of people who have gone through our training over 65% have signed off benefits and are now working.</p>	<p>The decision to withdraw the requirement to attain an NVQ/VRQ was taken by the Licensing Committee in June 2012.</p> <p>It was also the decision of the Licensing Committee that officers put forward proposals for an in-house training package.</p>	<p>None.</p>

<p>Councillor Colin Campbell</p>	<p>I would strongly support the continuation of the above training and its requirement for the provision of a licence. I believe the cost should be born by the applicant. This would be similar to HGV drivers and given that the qualification bestows financial gain to the applicant should not be funded by the public.</p>	<p>The decision to withdraw the requirement to attain an NVQ/VRQ was taken by the Licensing Committee in June 2012.</p> <p>Comments regarding the cost to be borne by the applicant have been noted.</p>	<p>None.</p>
<p>CableCom</p>	<p>I am pleased to reiterate that CableCom has access to funding for the above taxi qualification. There are a number of funding streams available to existing or aspiring taxi drivers in the next academic year. This course closely resembles the NVQ in content; both in knowledge requirements and competency and is fully funded. This would enable existing or new taxi drivers to obtain a nationally recognised qualification. I would appreciate your thoughts on this opportunity to continue offering a fully accredited qualification via Leeds City Council.</p>	<p>The decision to withdraw the requirement to attain an NVQ/VRQ was taken by the Licensing Committee in June 2012.</p> <p>It was also the decision of the Licensing Committee that officers put forward proposals for an in-house training package.</p>	<p>Officers recommend that if the NVQ/VRQ has already been achieved, this would negate the requirement to undertake any in-house training.</p>

<p>Private Hire Driver</p>	<p>I am absolutely disgusted, but not surprised the licensing committee has decided to withdraw the requirement for the NVQ VRQ, was it frightened of been called racist by the Asian drivers. I'm a driver at SJK and all our drivers passed their NVQ VRQ because we made it a requirement of working for SJK. You are just enabling the flyby night drivers who pirate in the city centre and headingley that you say you want to stop. Well reinstate the requirement for the NVQ VRQ and you will be half way there if you don't you are just reinforcing the general view you talk the talk but don't walk the walk.</p>	<p>It is unfortunate that circumstances changed regarding the funding.</p> <p>New drivers to the trade may continue to work towards the qualifications where funding is available and the in-house training will be mandatory to being granted a licence.</p>	<p>Officers recommend that if the NVQ/ VRQ has already been achieved, this would negate the requirement to undertake any in-house training.</p>
<p>Hackney Carriage Association</p>	<p>In the past all NVQ and VRQ have not been paid for by the drivers concerned who have taken the courses. The problem is that if VLE conduct in house training for new applicants it seems that you cannot work for free. I would love to think that all new Hackney Carriage will get the service free, however I somehow don't think so. In this case I believe we have no alternative .</p>	<p>New drivers to the trade may continue to work towards the qualifications where funding is available.</p>	<p>Officers recommend that if the NVQ/ VRQ has already been achieved, this would negate the requirement to undertake any in-house training.</p>