



**NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**29 JULY 2015**

**BRIEFING NOTE:**

**SCRUTINY PANEL 3 – LICENSING POLICY**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee commissioned Scrutiny Panel 3 to undertake a Review regarding Licensing Policy, the rationale being “To investigate the pattern of provision, including gambling, taxis and private hire.”
- 1.2 Membership of the Scrutiny Panel comprises Councillor Gareth Eales (Chair); Councillor Graham Walker (Deputy Chair); Councillors James Hill, Suresh Patel and Brian Sargeant.
- 1.3 At the inaugural meeting of the Scrutiny Panel, Councillors agreed the scope of the Review; a copy is attached at Appendix A, for the Committee’s approval.

**2 UPDATE**

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Panel agreed that the title of the Review should be amended to read: “Effectiveness of Enforcement of Licensing Policy in respect of Taxis and Private Hire.”
- 2.2 It was further suggested that the purpose of the Review be updated to read “To investigate the effectiveness of enforcement of licensing, for taxis and private hire vehicles.”
- 2.3 In discussing the rationale for the Review, the Scrutiny Panel felt that the required outcomes should be:
  - To put forward informed recommendations to all relevant parties on the enforcement of Licensing Policy
- 2.4 The schedule of meetings comprises:-

July 2015 to March 2016

23 July 2015

24 September  
22 October  
26 November  
7 January 2016  
3 March

- 2.5 Various site visits will be programmed in during this period, if required.
- 2.6 Meetings of the Scrutiny Panel will commence at 6.00pm and be held in the Jeffery Room at the Guildhall.
- 2.7 In accordance with the Scrutiny Panel Protocol the Chair of this Scrutiny Panel will provide written progress reports to future meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for information.

### **3 RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee approves the scope of the Scrutiny Panel 3, as attached at Appendix A.
- 3.2 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee amends the title of this Scrutiny Review to read “Effectiveness of Enforcement of Licensing Policy in respect of Taxis and Private Hire”.
- 3.3 That the purpose of the Scrutiny Review is updated to read “*To investigate the impact of anti-social behaviour on the town.*”

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Scrutiny Panel 3

24 July 2015