

Appendix 6

Question 3 - If action is taken by the council as a result of information being received from the police, do you agree that the information should be then fed back to the police?

Summary of DfT requirement and reason: -

The police are an invaluable source of intelligence when assessing whether a licensing applicant is a 'fit and proper' person. It is vital that licensing authorities have a partnership with the police service to ensure that appropriate information is shared as quickly as possible. As part of building an effective working relationship between the licensing authority and the police, **action taken by the licensing authority as a result of information received should be fed-back to the police**. Increasing the awareness among police forces of the value licensing authorities place on the information received, particularly on non-conviction intelligence, will assist furthering these relationships and reinforce the benefits of greater sharing of information.

This relationship can be mutually beneficial, assisting the police to prevent crime. The police can gain valuable intelligence from drivers and operators, for example, the identification of establishments that are selling alcohol to minors or drunks, or the frequent transportation of substance abusers to premises.

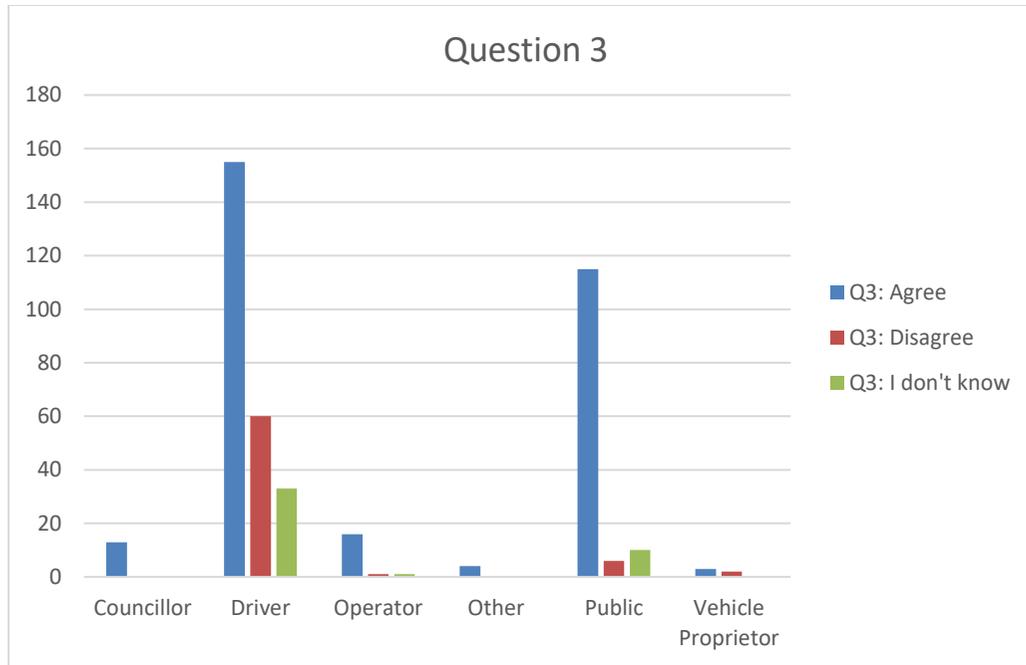
To aid further the quality of the information available to all parties that have a safeguarding duty, a revocation or refusal on public safety grounds should also be advised to the police.

Yes, I agree – 317 respondents (76%)

No, I do not agree – 75 respondents (18%)

I do not know – 27 respondents (6%)

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<u>Summary of repeated/similar additional comments</u>	<u>Council Response</u>
Most of the respondents agreed that information should be fed back to the police and communication and information sharing is important.	Information is received from the police regularly about matters relating to licensed drivers, it is good practice to feed back to the police so that they are aware if the council does or does not take any action against the driver.
A number of comments suggest that if it is a police matter the licensing service should leave the police to deal with it.	Being a private hire or hackney carriage driver is a notifiable occupation and therefore, if the police are made aware that a person, they have arrested is licensed then they must notify the licensing service. That information does not automatically result in a licence holder losing their licence. There will be times when the information is not acted upon until the outcome of a police investigation and resulted in a conviction in court, alternatively the police may not have

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	<p>enough evidence to result in a conviction and take no further action at this point the licensing authority will carry out its own investigation and conclude whether a person is deemed 'fit and proper' to continue to hold a licence, however, should the matter affect public safety in any way it is likely that the licence holder will have their licence suspended or revoked with immediate effect as public safety is the paramount consideration for the service. Following any decision to act or not after receiving information from the police the licensing service would then send an update to the police in relation to what action, if any, has been taken.</p>
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