

**Public
Key Decision - No**

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title: Suspension & Revocation of Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Licences.

Meeting/Date: Licensing and Protection Committee – 28 January 2026

Executive Portfolio: Executive Councillor for Resident Services and Corporate Performance – Councillor Stephen Ferguson

Report by: Licensing Manager – Michelle Bishop

Ward(s) affected: All.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Public Protection Manager & Licensing Manager have delegated authority to refuse, suspend or revoke Private Hire and Hackney Carriage driver and vehicle licences under the powers delegated by the Licensing and Protection Committee.

Below is a summary of the actions that have taken place over the last 6 months.

2. REPORT

2.1 01.09.2025 to 10.01.2026

Date	Licence type	Decision	Reason	Comments
Oct 2025	Dual Driver	Suspension	Failure to provide medical	
Oct 2025	Dual Driver	Suspension	Failure to provide medical	
Oct 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Dangerous defects - test failure	
Oct 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Major defects - test failure	
Oct 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Dangerous defects - test failure	

Oct 2025	HC Vehicle	Suspension	Dangerous defects - test failure	
Nov 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Major defects - test failure	
Nov 2025	HC Vehicle	Suspension	Major defects - test failure	
Nov 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Accident damage	
Nov 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Dangerous defects - test failure	
Nov 2025	PH Vehicle	Revocation	Insurance vehicle no longer in use, no contact from licence holder	
Nov 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Pre-test failed due to various defects	
Nov 2025	HC Vehicle	Suspension	Accident damage	
Nov 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Accident damage	
Dec 2025	HC Vehicle	Suspension	Major defects - test failure	
Dec 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Accident damage	
Dec 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Accident damage	
Dec 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Major defects - test failure	
Dec 2025	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Major defects - test failure	
Jan 2026	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Major defects - test failure	
Jan 2026	HC Vehicle	Suspension	Major defects - test failure	
Jan 2026	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Major defects - test failure	
Jan 2026	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Major defects - test failure	
Jan 2026	HC Vehicle	Revocation	Vehicle now Cat S after Accident	
Jan 2026	PH Vehicle	Suspension	Test failed due to various issues with the vehicle	

Period Summary

Drivers	2
Vehicles	23
Operators	0

2.2 DANGEROUS VEHICLE DEFECT - SUMMARY

A dangerous defect in a vehicle refers to a fault that poses an immediate risk to driver, passenger, or public safety. These defects typically make the vehicle illegal to drive until repaired.

Key Characteristics:

- Immediate safety risk (e.g., brake failure, steering issues)
- Likely to cause an accident or injury
- Fails MOT with a “dangerous” classification
- Must be repaired before the vehicle can be used on public roads

Examples of Dangerous Defects:

- Severely worn brake pads or discs
- Steering components that are loose or broken
- Tyres with exposed cords or below legal tread depth
- Cracked suspension parts
- Fuel leaks
- Non-functioning headlights or brake lights

2.3 MAJOR VEHICLE DEFECT - SUMMARY

A major defect is a serious fault that affects the safety, environmental impact, or overall roadworthiness of a vehicle. While not necessarily posing an immediate danger, it must be repaired before the vehicle can pass an MOT and be legally driven.

Key Characteristics:

- Significant impact on safety or emissions
- Fails MOT with a “major” classification
- Vehicle may still be driven (unless deemed unsafe), but repairs are required promptly

Examples of Major Defects:

- Brake warning light illuminated
- Headlamp not working on one side
- Exhaust emissions exceeding legal limits
- Suspension components worn but not broken
- Tyres damaged but not exposing cords
- Windscreen wipers not functioning properly

Legal and Safety Implications:

- Vehicle fails MOT
- Driving may be permitted short-term, but repairs are mandatory
- Continued use without repair may lead to dangerous defect classification

3. PENALTY POINTS ISSUED

3.1 As per the updated Taxi policy in May 2024, we can now issue Penalty Points as a way of disposing with incidents but still allows us to build a picture of driver/operator behaviour.

Below is a summary of what has been issued from October – December 2025

Date	Licence Type	Points Issued	Reason
Oct 2025	Dual Driver	6	x2 Speeding Convictions + failure to declare
Oct 2025	Dual Driver	6	x2 CU30 convictions failure to declare
Oct 2025	Dual Driver	3	fail to notify SP30 x3 points
Oct 2025	Dual Driver	3	Fail to notify SP30 x3 points
Oct 2025	Dual Driver	3	fail to notify SP30 x3 points
Dec 2025	Dual Driver	6	Fail to notify SP30 x 2
Dec 2025	Dual Driver	9	x3 Defective Tyres

4. MATTERS TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT

4.1 We currently have no outstanding licensing decisions that are awaiting a court date.

Date of original HDC decision	Licence type	Result
Aug 2025	Driver - Revoked	Pre Hearing – Oct 2025 Full Hearing Date set for March 2026
September 2025	Driver - Revoked	Pre Hearing – Jan 2026 Full Hearing - TBC

5. RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Members are requested to note and consider the above information.

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