

Public Protection Chairs Report - Wednesday 24th February

Immigration Bill – New Licensing Powers

The Government recently published its immigration bill that places additional responsibilities on local authorities to take action where taxi and private hire licence holders are found to not be entitled to work in the United Kingdom.

This will mean that licensing authorities will have to ensure all applicants have permission to work before being granted a licence. The driver and operator license will not be issued for a period any longer than the length of a person's permission to live and work in the UK. Immigration offences and penalties would be grounds for a licensing authority to revoke a license. It would be an offence for someone disqualified from continuing to hold a driver or operator licence for immigration reasons not to return their licence to the licensing authority.

The Committee accepted the report. The new powers should come into place late spring 2016.