

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Children Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee

2nd March 2017

Report of the Head of Legal Services – David Michael

Matter for Information

Wards Affected: All

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Safeguarding Training

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide members of the Scrutiny Committee with an update of the implementation of safeguarding training for hackney carriage and private hire drivers, hereafter referred to as "taxi drivers"

Background

2. Evidence in respect of the Licensing Service was provided to the Children, Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee "one day enquiry" on the 30th June 2015.
3. The Scrutiny Committee supported the Licensing Section's intention to implement safeguarding training for taxi drivers.
4. The Licensing Section's business plan 2016/2017 was presented to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on the 21st September 2016, where members heard that the training was still a priority for the Licensing Section, but implementation was taking longer than had been anticipated.

- The Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee requested an update before the end of the year and asked that an update also be provided to the Children Young People and Education Scrutiny Committee.

Officer Report

- The Licensing Section has been working with colleagues in Swansea Council in an attempt to provide consistent taxi driver safeguarding training across the Western Bay area. Funding was initially available through a Swansea Council Community Safety grant, although the short timescales involved meant that the funding expired.
- In December 2016, officers determined that it was no longer viable to deliver the training across both areas collaboratively and set about delivering the training locally instead.
- There are currently 355 taxi drivers licensed with this authority, 39 of which have already received safeguarding training as they have a home to school contract with the authority; 316 taxi drivers were therefore identified as requiring training.
- Initially four 90 minute sessions were arranged, each to accommodate 40 taxi drivers. Attendance is on a voluntary basis. The table below shows the current levels of training

Venue	Date	Drivers booked / attended
Session 1 - Port Talbot	14th Feb 2017	40 / 39
Session 2 - Neath	28th Feb 2017	40 /
Session 3 - Port Talbot	17th March 2017	40 /
Session 4 - Neath	31st March 2017	28 /

- Additional training sessions are being arranged for May in order to train as many taxi drivers as possible.

Financial Impact

11. There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

12. There are no equality impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

13. There are no legal impacts associated with this report.

Risk Management

14. There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

Consultation

15. There is no requirement under the constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendation

16. Item for information only

Reasons for Proposed Decision

17. Not applicable

Implementation of Decision

18. Not applicable.

Appendices

19. None

List of Background Papers

20. Safeguarding training for hackney carriage and private hire drivers - training materials

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