

Licensing Committee, Tuesday 17th December 2013

Minutes:

The Head of Licensing and Registration submitted a report which set out details of a proposal to introduce a three yearly Disclosure and Barring Service checks on Hackney Carriage Drivers, Private Hire Drivers, Hackney Carriage Proprietors and Private Hire Operators. The report highlighted the potential impact upon licence holders and resource implications for the Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Section.

Des Broster, Section Head, Taxi and Private Hire Licensing, presented the report and responded to Members questions and queries.

Detailed discussion ensued on the contents of the report which included:

- The potential impact on licence holders
- The resource implications for the Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Section

In offering comment Councillor Bruce welcomed the proposal suggesting that the public needed to be assured that the necessary checks had been undertaken.

Referring to paragraph 3.8 of the submitted report and the indication that additional staffing would be required to undertake the administration processes, the Chair asked if temporary staff could be employed?

In responding Mr Broster said it was unlikely that there'd be any advantage to employing temporary staff, the intention was to keep the situation under review and assign resources accordingly.

In summing up the Chair welcome the report suggesting Members appeared to be supportive of the proposals

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted
- (ii) To approve the introduction of three yearly disclosures on all existing licence holders noting that minor administrative changes may be made, as the policy develops
- (iii) To approve that a DBS check is a pre-requisite to the grant of a Hackney Carriage, Private Hire Driver, Hackney Carriage Proprietor and Private Hire Operator licence