

## RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO LICENSING COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No. 7

meeting date: 3 November 2015  
 title: SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION  
 submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
 principal author: MAIR HILL

### 1 PURPOSE

1.1 To seek Committee's approval of the introduction of mandatory training and testing of all private hire and hackney carriage driver's on issues surrounding child sexual exploitation.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives - }
- Corporate Priorities - }      Consideration of these issues will promote the Council's aim to be a well-managed Council.
- Other Considerations - }

### 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Inspector Baxter from the Lancashire Constabulary Public Protection Unit has approached each of the Licensing Authorities within Lancashire and requested that he be able to give a presentation to Councillors to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation and the reasons why it is important for Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's to have received training on this and be tested upon their knowledge of these issues part of the process of granting/renewing licences.

### 3 ISSUES

3.3 Inspector Baxter will make a presentation to Councillors at this meeting and based upon this information, Committee is asked to approve the introduction of mandatory training and testing of applicants for new licences or renewal of their private hire and/or hackney carriage driver's licences.

### 4. RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications

- Resources – Resources will be expended in carrying out the training and testing which will be passed on to licence holders.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – No implications identified.

- Political – No implications identified.
- Reputation – The Council’s reputation will be enhanced by ensuring the aspects of public safety are addressed.
- Equality & Diversity –No implications identified

5. **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

- 5.1 Approve the introduction of mandatory training and testing for all private hire and hackney carriage drivers on issues surrounding child sexual exploitation;
- 5.2 Authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to determine the specific requirements of such training and testing and to vary this based on guidance received from the Government, the police or other relevant body.

MAIR HILL  
SOLICITOR

MARSHAL SCOTT  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

For further information please ask for Mair Hill, extension 3216

REF: MJH/Licensing Committee/3 November 2015