

LICENSING REGULATORY COMMITTEE

Taxi and Private Hire Internal Audit 5th January 2017

Report of the Licensing Manager

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform members of the outcome of a recent internal audit of taxi and private hire licensing. The report is to note.

This report is public

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is requested to note the contents of the report.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Members may recall that at a previous meeting the licensing manager informed them that she had requested an internal audit of the procedures in the licensing department in relation to hackney carriage and private hire licensing. The audit was requested in order to provide assurance in relation to procedures and the control of risk, following the negative press coverage aimed at other local authority licensing departments where procedures have been severely criticised.
- 1.2 The report has been completed and it has concluded that the level of assurance provided by the current procedures is substantial. A copy of the audit report is attached at appendix 1 to this report.
- 1.3 The report has concluded that at Lancaster clear policies and procedures are in place setting the requirements for both hackney carriage and private hire licensing. The policies are prepared to reflect the current legislation and DFT guidance.
- 1.4 Members are now invited to read the attached report and ask any questions of the licensing manager about any issues that members feel have arisen as a result of the audit.

2.0 Conclusion

The report is for noting

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT**(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

The audit was carried out in order to provide a level of assurance in relation to taxi and private hire licensing procedures and policies. This is following the negative press received by some licensing authorities in relation to their procedures. It is important that members of the public and members of the hackney carriage and private hire trade can be assured that the Council takes its duty to protect the public seriously.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial Services have not been consulted.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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