

**Report of the Service Director Culture,
Housing and Regulation to the
General Licensing Regulatory Board
to be held on the 24 February 2016**

BMBC Licensing Service – Revision of Dual Driver Licence Conditions

1. Purpose of Report

This report has been prepared to inform Members of a revision to existing dual driver licence conditions in response to a recent internal audit review of taxi and premise licensing.

2. Background

BMBC's Licensing Service has a number of robust policies and procedures in place to ensure those licensed to drive licensed vehicles are 'fit and proper' and in doing so, ensuring the safety of passengers and members of the public alike.

3. Current Position

A key issue arising from the internal audit review related to the absence of a programme of safeguarding training in order to ensure licence holders, Members and officers can recognise the signs of child sexual exploitation (CSE) and be aware of how to report concerns. In response to this finding, a review of hackney carriage and private hire driver licence conditions has been undertaken to capture the mandatory requirement for all licensed drivers to undertake safeguarding training.

To achieve this mandatory requirement an effective programme of training has been established and is currently being delivered by Sheffield Futures, an independent charitable organisation forming part of a national working group that has delivered CSE/safeguarding training to drivers licensed with both Sheffield and Doncaster Council – both of which have been a great success.

The programme of training is well underway with the delivery of presentations to all new driver applicants which will be rolled out to all existing licensed drivers from April 2016; prioritising those who undertake home to school contracts and in doing so, coming into close contact with children and vulnerable adults on a regular basis.

Furthermore, safeguarding training has also been arranged for Licensing Officers and Members responsible for making key decisions on both the General and Statutory Licensing Regulatory Boards. The delivery of such training to all new and existing licensed drivers, Members and Officers alike will provide assurance not only in response to the findings of the internal audit review but to the general public whose safety will remain of paramount importance at all times.

4. Proposal

Members approve the introduction of a new dual driver licence condition endorsing the mandatory requirement for all new and existing licensed drivers to undertake safeguarding training.

5. Background Papers

No background papers

6. Officer Contact

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