

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Thursday, 5th February 2015

PRESENT: *Councillor Wright (in the Chair), Councillors Ali, Brookfield, Casey, Davies, Gee, Humphrys, Hussain I, Hussain S, Khonat H, Khonat S, Mulla.*

RESOLUTIONS

1 **Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting and apologies were received from Councillor Khan Z.

The Committee was advised that Councillor Don McKinlay had not been a member of the Licensing Committee during the period 2014/2015 and that Councillor Suleman Khonat had been a member on the Committee during this period.

2 **Minutes of the meetings held on 18th November 2014**

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th November 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3 **Declarations of Interest in items on this agenda**

There were no declarations of interest.

4 **Update on Mandatory Driver Training**

A report was submitted to inform Members of the introduction of a safeguarding module that had been introduced to mandatory driver training that all new applicants for private hire and hackney carriage drivers were required to undertake.

Donna Riding advised the Committee that the current training consisted of modules on customer care, private hire/hackney carriage law and conditions, disability awareness and a topographical test on the area.

Members were also advised that following discussions with the Council's safeguarding team, a decision had been made to introduce a basic safeguarding module covering both children and adults.

Dawn Walmsley, Safeguarding Development Manager, delivered the new Safeguarding Module to the Committee. This contained basic awareness of children and adults safeguarding currently being delivered to all new successful taxi and private hire applicants. Members were advised that this had formed part of their mandatory training from January 2015 and the learning outcomes were:

- Gain an awareness of the categories of abuse
- Be aware of what child sexual exploitation (CSE) and human trafficking is
- Understand how safeguarding related to themselves
- Know who to contact if they were concerned a child or adult was at risk of being abused

Members were also advised that the Council’s Public Protection team had been working closely with the Blackburn with Darwen Engage team, a multi-agency service made up of children’s services, police, voluntary sector and health workers which worked to identify and support children and young people at risk of sexual exploitation and their families, raise awareness of child sexual exploitation and bring offenders to justice.

Resolved – That the report and the presentation be noted.

5 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item in view of the fact that the business to be transacted is exempt by virtue of paragraph 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

6 Minutes of the General Licensing Sub Committees

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meetings of the General Licensing Sub Committee held on 25th November 2014, 9th December 2014 and 20th January 2015 were confirmed by Members present who had served at those meetings and were signed as a correct record.

Signed.....

Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were signed

Date.....