

## **COUNCIL MEETING – 15 NOVEMBER 2018**

### **Recommendation to Council from the Licensing Committee held on 5 October 2018**

#### **L/18/6. Review of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver and Private Hire Operator Conditions**

The Service Manager for Public Protection presented the report on the Review of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver and Private Hire Operator Conditions.

Points and comments included:

- This was a national initiative and was part of the Bedfordshire Strategy to tackle child sexual exploitation following a number of high profile cases around the country.
- Currently Central Bedfordshire Council were working with Bedford Borough Council and Luton Council to implement attendance at Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) awareness training to enable drivers to identify risks as well as enabling safeguarding.
- The training would be at nominal cost and would be reviewed should that cost increase.
- It was noted that the training would be mandatory and be included as a requirement as part of the driver conditions.
- Although no timeline had been provided for the training to be completed, it was noted that it would be practicable for training to take place within a 12 month deadline and this requirement would be included in the driver conditions. An additional recommendation would refer.
- It was noted that a number of private hire drivers were used by the Council as part of Home to School Transport and this training would be particularly important for them.
- The Committee agreed to review this item and include it in a future agenda.

#### **RESOLVED that**

- 1. all new drivers and all new private hire operators attend Child Sexual Exploitation awareness (CSE) training in advance of the first being licensed as a combined hackney carriage/private hire operator;**
- 2. all existing combined hackney carriage/private hire drivers and private hire operators be required to attend the CSE training;**
- 3. the cost of the CSE training become the responsibility of the applicant;**
- 4. driver applicants living outside the Central Bedfordshire Council area who require additional checks in order to assess their applications incur an additional fee; and**
- 5. all existing drivers complete the CSE training at the earliest opportunity and in any case no later than 12 months from adoption of these conditions.**

#### ***RECOMMENDED to Council***

***that the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver and Private Hire Operator conditions, as set out in Appendix B to the Licensing Committee minutes, be adopted including the addition of recommendation 5 above.***