

Minutes of the **Licensing Committee**
of the **Test Valley Borough Council**
held virtually by MS Teams
on Thursday, 18 March 2021 at 5.30 pm

Attendance:

Councillor G Bailey
(Chairman)

Councillor N Matthews
(Vice-Chairman)

Councillor I Andersen
Councillor T Burley
Councillor J Burnage
Councillor C Donnelly
Councillor A Dowden
Councillor D Drew

Councillor N Gwynne
Councillor A Johnston
Councillor L Lashbrook
Councillor P Lashbrook
Councillor R Meyer
Councillor J Parker

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor N Daas

459

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

460

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of Interest.

461

Urgent Items

There were no urgent items to consider.

462

Minutes

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

463

Taxi Driver Safeguarding Training

The report of the Licensing Manager sought approval to introduce compulsory safeguarding training for all licensed hackney carriage and private hire vehicle drivers and operators licensed by the Borough Council.

Addressing the issue of abuse, exploitation or neglect of children and vulnerable adults has become a priority and a matter of great importance for the community and public authorities. Those in the taxi and private hire industry can play a pivotal role in identifying signs of such behaviour.

Resolved:

- 1. That all existing licensed hackney carriage and private hire vehicle drivers and private hire operators be required to undertake approved safeguarding training.**
- 2. That existing drivers and operators to have until 31 October 2021 to undertake training and any that have failed to do so by this date will have their licences suspended, not renewed or revoked until such time as training has taken place.**
- 3. That with effect from 1 May 2021 all new applicants for driver or operator licences be required to have undertaken approved safeguarding training before being licensed.**
- 4. That all licensed hackney carriage and private hire vehicle drivers and private hire operators to be required to update their safeguarding training upon the Council's request using a safeguarding training provider/assessment approved by the Council.**
- 5. That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Licencing Manager, Corporate Portfolio Holder and Chair of Licensing Committee be authorised to identify, approve and implement appropriate safeguarding training.**

(The meeting terminated at 6.12 pm)