

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO LICENSING COMMITTEE

DECISION

meeting date: TUESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2022
title: NATIONAL REGISTER OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER REVOCATIONS (NR3)
submitted by: MARSHAL SCOTT – CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: STEPHEN BARKER – SOLICITOR

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To seek Committee's approval of the adoption and use of a policy in respect of requests for information, disclosure of information and use of information as a result of an entry on the National Register of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Revocations (NR3).

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives }
- Corporate Priorities } The Council aims to be a well-managed Council providing efficient services based on identified customer needs.
- Other Considerations }

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Members' attention is drawn to a report to this Committee on Tuesday, 10 April 2018, explaining the introduction of a voluntary national database, allowing Councils to record details of why a taxi or private hire vehicle driver's licence has been refused, revoked, or suspended, and enabling authorities to check new applicants against the register. This voluntary register was proposed by the Local Government Association (LGA) as a private Member's bill which had been seeking to introduce such a register had stalled in the House of Commons.

2.2 At the meeting of this Committee on 1 February 2022, Members were updated on the parliamentary progress of a replacement private Member's bill to the same effect. That bill was passed and the relevant provisions are to be found in the Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (Safeguarding and Road Safety) Act 2022.

2.3 In 2018, Committee authorised the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to arrange for the Council to sign up to the national database and join the National Anti-Fraud Network (NAFN) which administers the register. This was carried out, and the Council has carried out appropriate checks since the register went live in July 2018.

3 ISSUES

3.1 NAFN have issued guidance on adoption of the register (NR3), which includes a template of a policy relating to requests for information, disclosure of information and use of information as a result of an entry on NR3, including a template disclosure form.

3.2 The policy has been reviewed and customised to reflect application by Ribble Valley Borough Council. The draft policy is attached as Appendix 1. Committee is asked formally to approve the adoption of this policy.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – The Council is already a member of NAFN, paying an annual membership fee.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – No implications identified.
- Political – No implications identified.
- Reputation – No implications identified.
- Equality & Diversity – No implications identified.

5 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

5.1 Formally approve the adoption of the Ribble Valley Borough Council policy in respect of requests for information, disclosure of information and use of information as a result of an entry on NR3.

STEPHEN BARKER
SOLICITOR

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Stephen Barker, extension 3216.