

**TO: LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
12 JANUARY 2012**

**FIRST AID TRAINING FOR LICENSED DRIVERS
Chief Officer: Environment and Public Protection**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In April 2009, the Licensing and Safety Committee approved the proposal to widen the scope of the first aid course to cover all licensed drivers. Previously, only drivers obtaining new licences had to attend the course. The aim was to have all licensed drivers attend the course within a two year period and this report is intended to provide the Committee with an update on the progress with this programme.

2 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 Under section 51(2) of the Local Government, Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, a district council may attach to the grant of a driver's licence such conditions as the Council may consider reasonably necessary.
- 2.2 All licensed drivers are required, as a condition of their licence, to attend a first aid course run by the Council, unless they can provide documentation stating that they have passed a recognised first aid course within the last five years. Drivers must also attend refresher first aid courses, five years after the date of their initial course or when their current certificate expires.
- 2.3 The Council aims to run at least one first aid course each month using an external training provider. The course lasts approximately half a day and covers emergency first aid and life support.
- 2.4 Since April 2009, the Licensing team has been working through the records for all licensed drivers to identify those who have never attended a first aid course. Drivers have been notified in writing to come in to book a course on a convenient date.
- 2.5 Of the 351 licensed drivers in the Borough, action is being taken in respect of 22 drivers who have not yet attended an initial or refresher first aid course as required. Of these, 4 have had their licence suspended, 5 have had their licence revoked and 13 have had a letter requesting that they book a place within 10 days or their licence will be suspended. All other drivers have either attended the course or have a place booked for a course in 2012.
- 2.6 There have been some unavoidable cancellations of courses as the course trainer was unwell for a long period of time, so not all drivers were able to attend the courses by April 2011 as originally hoped. The aim is that all those who should have attended a course will have an opportunity to book a place by March 2012.

3 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 3.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

4 STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

4.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

Background Papers

Guidance Notes and Conditions for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Owners, Operators and Drivers (April 2011)

Contact for further information

Laura Driscoll

Licensing Team Leader

01344 352517

laura.driscoll@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Doc Ref

G:\TSTANDRD\Laura\Committee\2012\201201\First Aid Courses for Licensed Drivers.doc
20.12.11