REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENTAL AND AGENDA ITEM: 8

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

COMMITTEE

DATE OF 28th SEPTEMBER 2017 DELEGATED/

MEETING: RECOMMENDED

REPORT FROM: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OPEN/EXEMPT

PARAGRAPH NO:

MEMBERS' ARDIP KAUR DOC:

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SUBJECT: PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY REF:

WARD(S) TERMS OF AFFECTED: ALL REFERENCE:

1. Recommendations

1.1 That the proposed changes to the Private Hire Licensing Policy are approved to come into effect on 3rd November 2017.

2. Purpose of Report

2.1 To provide Members with the necessary information to be able to give full consideration to the recommendation contained in paragraph 1.1 of this report.

3. <u>Detail</u>

- 3.1 The Private Hire Licensing Policy is required to be reviewed every three years. The current Policy expires in November 2017. The Policy has been reviewed and the intended changes are highlighted in the draft Policy attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 The substantial changes are to incorporate new legislation namely the Immigration Act 2016 with regards to right to work checks and the Equality Act 2010 with regards to wheelchair accessible vehicles. Minor amendments have been made to update internal and/or external procedures.
- 3.3 In addition, on 17th August 2017, the Environmental and Development Services Committee approved mandatory child sexual exploitation awareness training for all new and existing drivers. The draft Policy has been amended to include this mandatory training at paragraph 3.43 to 3.45.

Consultation

3.11 Officers conducted a 6 weeks consultation exercise on these proposals with all existing licence holders and members of the public via the Council's website. All consultees were notified of the mandatory CSE training on 18th August 2017. Four responses were received during the consultation period with regard to the content of

the Policy; a response from Councillor Harrison, two from Parish Council's (Rosliston Parish Council and Coton in the Elms Parish Council) and the fourth from The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Where relevant comments have been incorporated into the draft Policy document.

3.12 The proposed amendments to the Policy were discussed at the most recent Driver's Forum and all drivers and operators in attendance were supportive of the proposed amendments.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications to the Council.

5. <u>Corporate Implications</u>

5.1 These proposals will continue to demonstrate to members of the public the importance the Council places on the protection of local residents, children, and vulnerable adults from the potential harms of private hire licensing, which contributes to the theme of safety and security.

6. Background Papers

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Immigration Act 2016 Equality Act 2010