

## **DEMONSTRATION OF A PROPOSED ONLINE KNOWLEDGE TEST**

**Licensing Committee - 13 July 2016**

Report of                   Chief Officer, Environmental and Operational Services  
Status:                   For Information  
Key Decision:           No

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**Executive Summary:** This report introduces a demonstration of the proposed online Knowledge Test for new Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers looking to work within the District of Sevenoaks.

A further report will be brought before the Licensing Committee to outline the new process and any changes that may be required to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy.

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**This report supports the Key Aim of Safe and Caring Communities and Dynamic and Sustainable Economy**

**Portfolio Holder**      Cllr Mrs. Firth (Legal and Democratic Services)

**Contact Officer(s)**    Mrs. Claire Perry 7325/07970 731616

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### **Recommendation to Licensing Committee:**

That the report be noted.

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### **Introduction and Background**

- 1    Sevenoaks District Council as the Licensing Authority has responsibility for licensing Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers in the interests of public safety and protection.
- 2    In accordance with our aim to reduce paper and streamline our processes, this Authority in conjunction with the Smarter Digital Services based at Tunbridge Wells, has developed an online Knowledge Test for drivers. It is proposed that this test will replace the practical Knowledge Test that is currently undertaken with a Licensing Officer.
- 3    Members are invited to view the proposed test and make suggested improvements. The test will be developed further and will be tested with existing drivers prior to implementation.

- 4 A further report will be brought before the Licensing Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016 to outline the new process and any changes that may be required to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy.

## Key Implications

## Financial

- 5 There are no financial implications to consider at this time.

## Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

- 6 There are no legal implications to consider at this time as this is a demonstration only.

## Equalities Assessment

- 7 Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups. There is no decision required with this report as it is for information only.

## Appendices

## Background Papers

**Richard Wilson**  
**Chief Officer, Environmental and Operational Services**