EAST HERTS COUNCIL

NON-KEY DECISION – SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 28 AUGUST 2012

REPORT BY EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY ENVIRONMENT

REVIEW OF TAXI LICENSING IN EAST HERTS – INITIAL REPORT AND SCOPE

WAND(3) ALL LOTED.	ΛII	

Purpose/Summary of Report

MADD(S) AFFECTED: All

 This report summarises the first stages of this review, and presents the scoping document for committee members consideration and agreement.

RECO	OMMENDATION FOR COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: that:
(A)	the scoping document for the Review of Taxi Licensing in East Herts attached to this report as Essential Reference Paper "B", be considered and agreed; and
(B)	the Task and Finish group be asked to report back to Community Scrutiny Committee on 20 November 2012.

1.0 <u>Background</u>

- 1.1 On 12 June 2012 Community Scrutiny Committee agreed to set up a Task and Finish Group to undertake a review of Taxi Licensing in East Herts.
- 1.2 The Leader of the Council made a commitment to a review of taxi licensing services in a press briefing following a series of articles in the Mercury newspaper looking at criminal convictions among taxi licence holders.

2.0 Report

- 2.1 The membership of the task and finish group is;
 - o Councillor Beeching,
 - Councillor Crofton,
 - o Councillor Hollebon,
 - Councillor Pope,
 - Councillor Poulton and
 - Councillor Wood

Invited observer:

- o Councillor Cheswright
- 2.2 The group met on 1 August 2012 and have;
 - o agreed the scope,
 - o identified the purpose and intended outcomes;
 - identified benchmarking required against other local authorities;
 - o identified the witnesses they wish to call;
 - o and set a timetable for further meetings.
- 2.3 The draft scope is attached (see essential reference paper B). Members are asked to consider and agree the document.
- 3.0 <u>Implications/Consultations</u>
- 3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper** 'A'.

Background Papers

Notes of the taxi task and finish group meeting are available on request from the Scrutiny Officer by email;

scrutiny@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Member:

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Licensing Task and Finish Group

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