

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

# Non-Statutory Licensing Committee

22 January 2020

<b>Report title</b>	Vehicle Control and Supervision Operative Research	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Ross Cook, Director of City Environment	
<b>Originating service</b>	Licensing Services	
<b>Accountable employee</b>	Greg Bickerdike	Section Leader, Licensing
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<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	N/A	

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## Recommendation for decision:

The Non-Statutory Licensing Committee is recommended to:

1. Review the 'Event Management for Licensed Vehicles' report.
2. Endorse the event management guidance, sample plan and recommendations.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the findings of the research into the use of Vehicle Control and Supervision Operatives.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 Vehicle Control and Supervision Operatives (VCSOs) have been used ad-hoc to support events in the City. VCSOs are also known as 'Taxi Marshals'. VCSOs ensure the safety and security of event attendees and licensed drivers.
- 2.2 To understand the scope of VCSOs' role in the City's transport network, Licensing Services commissioned research into their impact. This research was led by Ian Millership, an industry leader in traffic management. The report of his research, 'City of Wolverhampton Council Event Management for Licensed Vehicles' is included as Appendix 1.

## **3.0 Key Research Outcomes**

- 3.1 The report recommends the use of VCSOs.
- 3.2 The report recommends the use of two-way radios by VCSOs to assist in communication. It will be necessary to purchase two-way radios for VCSOs to use.
- 3.3 The report recommends the use of portable CCTV cameras. Licensing Services is already in possession of portable CCTV cameras and these are used in compliance enforcement of licensed private hire and hackney carriage vehicles.

## **2.0 Financial implications**

- 2.1 Financial implications for the procurement of VCSOs will be included in its tender, to be approved by Cabinet (Resources Panel) and the Cabinet Member for City Environment. The procurement exercise is intended to deliver the best value for money and will be completed in accordance with Procurement rules.
- 2.2 Two-way radios will be purchased in accordance with Procurement rules, however the cost is not expected to exceed the threshold which requires a formal tender. Value for money will also be pursued when purchasing two-way radios.
- 2.3 These costs will be met out of existing Licensing Services budgets.  
[NC/06012020/Z]

## **5.0 Legal implications**

- 5.1 VCSO's are not a legal requirement and research into their effectiveness is not required in law, both are however good practice.

5.2 There are therefore no direct Legal implications. Legal implications relating to the recruitment of VCSO's, procurement of the report and procurement of the body worn cameras will be considered in the relevant reports, if required.  
[LW/13012020/M]

## **6.0 Equalities implications**

6.1 As discussed in Appendix 1, some people with mobility issues rely upon taxis to attend events. By improving taxi transportation, this will increase accessibility for disabled people.

## **7.0 Climate change and environmental implications**

7.1 The use of Vehicle Control and Supervision Operatives is expected to reduce congestion at events, which will improve air quality due to less air pollution from vehicle emissions.

## **8.0 Human Resources implications**

8.1 There are no Human Resources implications.

## **9.0 Corporate landlord implications**

9.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications.

## **10.0 Schedule of background papers**

10.1 None.