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| <b>Report to:</b>              | <b>EXECUTIVE</b>   |
| <b>Relevant Officer:</b>       | Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager   |
| <b>Relevant Cabinet Member</b> | Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council<br>(Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs) |
| <b>Date of Decision</b>        | 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2016  |

## LICENSED HORSE DRAWN HACKNEY CARRIAGES SCRUTINY REVIEW FINAL REPORT

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriages Scrutiny Review final report.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider the report and offer a response to the recommendations contained within the Action Plan.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The recommendations contained within final report seek to deliver improvements in service.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

The Executive must consider the recommendations outlined in the Scrutiny Review but may accept them, reject them or vary them.

#### **4.0 Council Priority:**

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

“The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”

#### **5.0 Background Information**

5.1 The review topic was chosen following a referral from the Public Protection Sub-Committee regarding reviewing the Council’s policy on licensed horse drawn hackney carriages following an increase throughout 2014 in the number of complaints about the amount of horse droppings on the Promenade and about carriage drivers driving down the middle of the road and going through red lights. There had also been an increase in the number of queries concerning the welfare of the horses whilst on the Promenade. In addition, in October 2014 a serious incident took place where a horse was startled and bolted down the Promenade. The carriage in question collided with members of the public on the Promenade and a six year old boy had his collar bone broken as a result.

5.2 A previous scrutiny review of the licensed horse drawn hackney carriages service had been undertaken in 2007. Since then, the layout of the Promenade has changed significantly and, in light of the above mentioned increase in complaints, it was therefore considered appropriate for the issue to be considered in detail once more.

5.3 Following an initial meeting of the Panel to establish a Chairman and to agree the scope for the review, an ‘in a day’ review approach was utilised. This meant that the Panel only held one meeting to which all key officers and representatives of the service were invited. All evidence was considered before the Panel came to its conclusions and recommendations.

5.4 In accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny / Cabinet Member Relations Protocol, the final report has been considered by the Tourism, Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, which approved the report for consideration by the Executive. The Deputy Leader of the Council as the relevant Cabinet Member has had the opportunity to meet the Chairman of the Panel and make comments on the recommendations and these are contained within the report as Appendix 2a.

5.5 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

#### **5.6 List of Appendices:**

Appendix 2a - Licensed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriages Scrutiny Review final report.

**6.0 Legal considerations:**

6.1 Contained within the body of the report.

**7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 Not applicable.

**8.0 Equalities considerations:**

8.1 Not applicable.

**9.0 Financial considerations:**

9.1 Contained within the body of the report.

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 Contained within the body of the report.

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 Not applicable.

**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 Contained within the body of the report.

**13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 None.

**14.0 Key decision information:**

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

**15.0 Call-in information:**

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process?

No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE**

**16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):**

Date informed:

Date approved:

**17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

17.1

**18.0 Executive decision:**

18.1

**18.2 Date of Decision:**

**19.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

**19.1 Date Decision published:**

**20.0 Executive Members present:**

20.1

**21.0 Call-in:**

21.1

**22.0 Notes :**

22.1