

1. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976**

Submitted by **Head of Environmental Health Services**

Portfolio **Environment and Recycling**

Ward(s) affected **All**

Purpose of the Report

To advise the Committee of the action taken in respect of a Private Hire Driver offence within the Borough.

Recommendations

That the report be received

Reasons

Consistent enforcement is needed to challenge drivers who choose to ignore the law and put public safety at risk.

1. **Background**

A Newcastle under Lyme Private Hire Driver, Mr Luckman Ali was observed on Wednesday 19 November 2014, travelling along Barracks Road Newcastle Under Lyme when he was stopped by police officers who were conducting road patrol duties. The driver was dealt with regarding other matters, and was asked to produce his drivers badge and drivers licence. Mr Ali admitted to the officers that he had no licence or identification badge on his person or within the vehicle. Mr Ali was interviewed by council officers and advised of the importance of wearing his badge in terms of public safety and reassurance of the public.

Following an appearance at Stafford Magistrates Court on 3 June 2015, Mr Ali pleaded guilty and was fined £100 for the offence, £20 victim surcharge and £130 costs.

2. **Issues**

The action taken should encourage private hire drivers to comply with all the conditions and regulations, wearing a badge is an important public safety issue.

3. **Policy Considerations**

There are none arising from this report.

4. **Outcomes Linked to Corporate Priorities**

- 4.1 Creating a cleaner, safer and sustainable Borough.

5. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

- 5.1 There are none arising from this report.

6. **Equality Impact Assessment**

- 6.1 There are no differential equality impacts identified within this report.

7. **Financial and Resource Implications**

The Council were awarded costs during the court proceedings.

8. **Major Risks**

- 8.1 There are none arising from this report.

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