

## Responses to questions raised at Scrutiny Committee:

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**Q: Members queried the total number of non-Cheshire East licenced taxi drivers in the Borough, if the same sanctions applied to non-Cheshire East registered drivers and if all licences given out by CE for taxi services were to a CE registered supplier.**

A: Cheshire East Council can only place requirements on the licence holders we licence. Any licence holders licensed by other Council's will be subject to specific policy requirements or conditions of their home licensing authority.

However, the Department for Transport has issued the Statutory taxi and private hire vehicle standards to all Licensing Authorities and places an expectation on us that information on safeguarding awareness and guidance will be given to the trade. Most Councils are promoting that by requiring training to be attended. A departure from that expectation would need to be fully justified and given the Casey Report, it is unlikely that a Council would provide no information on safeguarding matters (just that the delivery method may vary).

In terms of vehicles licensed by other Council's working in our area, this is lawful where the journeys are prebooked. And while in our area these drivers and vehicles remain the responsibility of their home Licensing Authority and subject to their policy and condition requirements (not ours). However, if a breach of the legislation were to be identified then CEC can prosecute those offences and those prosecutions are no limited to those we have licensed.

We work closely with officers from Wolverhampton, who have regional enforcement teams based across the Country. We regularly share information and intelligence with them and to help facilitate that we are in the process are entering into a formal data sharing agreement.

**Q. Members highlighted that fly-tipping across the Borough was a problem and queried how many reports of fly-tipping in CE had resulted in a successful prosecution.**

Members may also want to consider broadening their request, as this is often an issue, for example whilst there have been no prosecutions for fly tipping, there have been other actions, including Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's), which upon payment negates the need for prosecution. FPN's are not a prosecution but means of taking enforcement action. The number of FPN's have been requested from the department for April 2022 to March 2023 and I will advise of these shortly.

**Q. Members requested weblinks to the various websites referred to within the meeting.**

A:

- Live Well / Domestic Abuse Hub: [Cheshire East Domestic Abuse Hub \(CEDAH\) | CheshireEast MarketPlace](#)
- <https://hubofhope.co.uk/>
- <https://www.zerosuicidealliance.com/training>
- <https://www.papyrus-uk.org/active-training/#>