

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

10 JUNE 2021

FIRST AID TRAINING FOR TAXI DRIVERS

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To set out some options for consideration by Members for first aid training of Newark & Sherwood licenced taxi drivers.

2.0 Background

2.1 Taxi drivers are often present within local communities and town centre and as such can often be first on the scene if an incident occurs. This report sets out some options for the provision of first aid training for licensed taxi drivers

2.2 The district council provides first aid training for its own staff who are designated as first aiders and this training is provided by 'Notts Save a Life'. The one day course 'Emergency First Aid at Work' is considered appropriate for the level of knowledge required for the type of emergency that it is envisaged taxi drivers would be responding to.

2.3 The 6 hour course covers emergency first aid suitable for a nominated first aider in lower risk areas. Content includes:

- Accidents and illness
- Using a first aid kit
- Simple record taking
- Treating an unconscious casualty
- Heart attacks and strokes

2.4 The cost of a 1 day course is £300 for a course delivered on council premises for a maximum of 12 delegates.

2.5 An alternative to the above is course entitled 'First on Scene'. This 3 hour course covers basic first aid to equip responders with the necessary skills to handle basic first aid until someone fully qualified arrives. Content includes the same as above but in less detail.

2.6 The cost of a course is £15 per delegate when delivered on council premises. Larger groups of delegates are allowed for this course.

2.7 A range of other providers and courses are available.

3.0 Proposals

3.1 There are number of options that Members may wish to consider.

Option 1

Provide a venue, a trainer and cover the cost of the training.

This would be the most expensive option for the Council and may attract large demand. The Council currently has 146 licensed taxi drivers and 115 private ambulance drivers.

Option 2

Provide a venue and trainer and subsidise the training by 50%

The 50% subsidy would attract some drivers and would lessen the demand from that of a fully funded training event.

Option 3

Provide a venue and trainer and provide no subsidy for the course fees.

This would involve little out lay from the Council but may not attract many delegates.

Option 4

Provide details and prices of courses available and let the drivers source their own training if they wish to do so.

3.2 Each of the options set out above has different budgetary implications and it is not possible to fully identify the cost of the training until the preferred option and demand for that option is known.

3.3 If Members are minded to support an option that requires funding from the Council there is an opportunity to set aside a fixed amount of budget to deliver a finite amount of training on a first come first served basis.

4.0 Equalities Implications

4.1 There are equalities implications arising from this report.

5.0 Financial Implications (FIN21-22/6409)

5.1 The costs below are based on maximum take up of the training for 146 drivers.

	3 hour course	1 day course
Option 1	£2,190	£3,650
Option 2	£1,095	£1,825
Option 3	£0	£0
Option 4	£0	£0

5.2 The venue would be Castle House, so no additional cost to the Council, although while the rooms are used for training, they cannot be used for external income sources. The cost of the trainer is included in the course fees as stated in section 2.

5.3 Budget provision does not exist, so additional funding through reserves will be required, up to £3,650, if options 1 or 2 are chosen.

6.0 Digital Implications

6.1 There are no digital implications arising from this report.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION

Members are asked to indicate their preferred option with associated budget for delivering first aid training for licensed taxi drivers.

Reason for Decision

To enhance the safety of the communities of Newark & Sherwood.

Background Papers

Nil

For further information please contact Alan Batty on Extension 5467.

Matthew Finch
Director – Communities & Environment