

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>		<b>LICENSING COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>SUBJECT:</b>		BTEC QUALIFICATIONS	
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>		2 JUNE 2010	
<b>REPORT OF:</b>		SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL	
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Name:	Richard Black	Tel: 023 8083 3523
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<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>			
None			

### **BRIEF SUMMARY**

To seek members' support to approve a further training provider that offers a similar qualification to the Edexcel Level 2 BTEC Award in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire.

To delegate authority to the Solicitor to the Council to approve further similar qualifications if they meet the current criteria.

To waive the requirement for drivers, who are currently licensed by Southampton City Council as either Hackney Carriage or Private Hire drivers and have held such licence for in excess of three years, to undertake a BTEC or similar qualification when making application for the alternate licence.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- (i) To approve the EDI (Educational Development International) certificate in road passenger transport (taxi).
- (ii) To delegate authority to Solicitor to the Council to approve further similar qualifications.
- (iii) To alter the policy for driver criteria in order that suitably qualified licensed drivers can apply for an alternate drivers licence without the need to undertake an approved qualification and to delegate authority to the Solicitor to the Council to authorise the wording of such amendment.

### **REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1 There are a number of Training Organisations who offer similar qualifications the overriding concern should be for the Council to be inclusive in its approach to other qualifications, provided the standard meets the relevant criteria.
- 2 In order to prevent delays and expedite approval of suitable qualifications.
- 3 To ensure applications by existing drivers are not unnecessarily impeded by unreasonable requirements.

### **DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)**

- 4 The Licensing Committee approved the requirement for the Edexcel BTEC qualification in August 2009 as a matter of policy for new drivers. At the time there were no other obvious qualifications on offer. The EDI qualification,

however, has since been recommended to the Licensing Team and, given that its content is to all intents and purposes the same as the Edexcel qualification it would appear that the approval of another qualification extends the available options to potential drivers.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

**Capital/Revenue**

5 None

**Property/Other**

6 None

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**Statutory Power to undertake the proposals in the report:**

7 Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and Local Government ( Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

**Other Legal Implications:**

8 None

**POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS**

9 None

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices**

1.	None
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**Documents In Members' Rooms**

1.	None
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**Background Documents**

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.	None	
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**Background documents available for inspection at:** Licensing Office, Southbrook Rise

**FORWARD PLAN No:** N/A                      **KEY DECISION?** NO

<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	N/A
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