

## NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

## REPORT

To: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE		Subject: LAUNCH OF ELECTRONIC DRIVER LICENCE CHECKING SYSTEM
From: HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT AND ESTATES		
Date: 27th January 2015	Ref: KW/GJ/JS	

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek authorisation for the Fleet Operations Section to roll out automated driving licence checks in early 2015.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The council has a legal duty to ensure at least once per year that all of its authorised drivers hold the correct licence entitlement for the type of vehicle being driven.
- 2.2 In 2015, the DVLA will no longer be issuing the paper counterpart section of driving licences, thereby making it impossible to check hardcopy licences.
- 2.3 The roll out of the pool car system had increased the number of authorised drivers in the council to 3,000, and the manual checking of licences had become problematic.
- 2.4 Committee will recall an earlier report from April 2013 in which approval was sought to procure an automated licence checking system. Following a procurement exercise via Public Contracts Scotland, an electronic licence checking system called Driver Check has been purchased to make it easier for the council to identify drivers with infringements and points on their licence. These high risk drivers can be selected for more frequent checking in order to better protect the council's position.
- 2.5 The electronic system for licence checking requires employees to sign a mandate which lasts for 3 years, authorising the council to obtain driving licence data from the DVLA. The affected employees will be made aware of the new system via a number of communication channels, including a personalised letter.

**3. Financial Implications**

- 3.1 The software licence costs are paid via a £3 charge per enquiry. With 3,000 authorised drivers being checked on average once per year, the ongoing annual cost of the system is £9,000 per year. The value of the contract over a 3 year period being £27,000.
- 3.2 The new £3 cost per driver checked will be recharged to Services by Fleet Operations. The introduction of the system will remove a significant administrative burden from Services, and it represents a relatively small additional cost per year to ensure that the council continues to comply with road traffic legislation.

#### **4. Recommendation**

4.1 It is recommended that Committee authorises the Fleet Operations Section to roll out the automated driving licence checking system in early 2015.

4.2 Refer this report to:

- Policy and Resources Committee
- Policy and Resources (Human Resources) (Sub Committee)



**KENNETH WILSON**  
**HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT AND ESTATES**

Local Government Access to Information Act: for further information about this report please contact  
Graham Johnstone on 01698-506275