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21st February 2017

Dear Parent,

Shropshire Council have provided the following information with regard to the hire of novelty vehicles/limousines for school dances/proms and asked if it can be passed on to parents. This is because there are a number of vehicles advertised for hire on various websites including Facebook; unfortunately, not all of these vehicles are licensed correctly which means the students could be put at risk on their special night.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976
Hire of Novelty Vehicles/Limousines for School Dances/Proms

If the limousine/novelty vehicle carries 8 passengers or less, then it is likely that it should be licensed as a Private Hire Vehicle. If the vehicle carries 9 passengers or more, then a PSV operator's licence is required.

Vehicles which are 8 passenger seats or less are subject to Private Hire Vehicle licensing requirements:

- The driver must be licensed and have a current, enhanced DBS (previously called a CRB) check.
- The vehicle must be licensed and have a current MOT and appropriate hire and reward insurance. For limousines, additional checks are undertaken to ensure that any conversion has been carried out to a satisfactory standard. The vehicle should also have a discreet licence plate or PSV sticker on display.
- The booking must be made through a licensed Private Hire Operator.
- All of these licences must be issued by the same local authority, for example, Shropshire Council.

The only exception to this requirement is where the vehicle is used for weddings or funerals exclusively, not for any other type of special occasion.

If parents are booking a vehicle, they should ask for confirmation that the vehicle and driver are licenced and a legitimate operator will be happy to provide this.

Alternatively, parents can contact 0345 678 9046 or email taxis@shropshire.gov.uk and a member of the Taxi Team will be happy to assist.

(Cont.d)

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If you wish to discuss the matter further please feel free to contact:

Stacia Cotton
Public Protection Officer (Specialist)
Licensing Team/Public Protection
Shropshire Council

Tel: 0345 678 9046

Email: taxis@shropshire.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

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