

MINUTES OF LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING - TUESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2016

Present:

Councillor Hutton (in the Chair)

Councillors

G Coleman	Hunter	Roberts	Singleton
Hobson	Maycock	Ryan	L Taylor
Humphreys	Owen	Scott	T Williams

In Attendance:

Mr Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager
Mrs Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Service

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor G Coleman declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 3, Frequency of Vehicle Tests, and Agenda Item 4, Horse Drawn Hackney Licensing Policy. The nature of the interest in both cases being that he held a Private Hire Vehicle Driver's Licence.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 25 MAY 2016

The Committee considered the minutes of the last meeting held on 25 May 2016.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the last meeting held on 25 May 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3 FREQUENCY OF VEHICLE TESTS

The Licensing Committee considered a proposed amendment to the testing regime for both Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles as set out in the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy.

The Committee considered carefully the view submitted by a Private Hire Vehicle Operator that the testing regime previously agreed and contained was excessive for brand new vehicles. The Committee then also considered the Council's mechanics' view of the proposal and the results of vehicle inspections in August, September and October 2016.

In response to questions, Mrs Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Service, explained that vehicles were tested immediately prior to their initial licensing and so the recommendation from the mechanics was that it was unnecessary to then test the vehicle during the first year of licensing. It was however considered that the mileage often undertaken by licensed vehicles meant that after the first year of licensing vehicles should continue to be tested twice yearly.

MINUTES OF LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING - TUESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2016

Resolved:

To recommend to the Executive to amend the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing so that new vehicles (those less than 6 months old) are tested on their first licensing and on the first anniversary of their licensing instead of twice a week.

(Councillor G Coleman having declared a prejudicial interest left the room during consideration of this item and took no part in the discussion or voting.)

4 HORSE DRAWN HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING POLICY

Following consultation, the Licensing Committee considered the proposed Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy.

Mrs Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing reminded the Licensing Committee that the draft policy had been approved for consultation at its March 2016 meeting. The consultation had taken place until the end of June 2016. No formal written representations had been received but the Landau Liaison meeting had discussed the document and had been broadly supportive. The Landau Liaison meeting had recommended some minor amendments to the consultation document which had been incorporated into the document included with the agenda.

Resolved:

To recommend to the Executive the adoption of the revised Horse Drawn Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy.

(Councillor G Coleman having declared a prejudicial interest left the room during consideration of this item and took no part in the discussion or voting.)

5 REVIEW OF SEX ESTABLISHMENT POLICY

The Licensing Committee considered following consultation, the updated Sex Establishment Policy. The Committee noted that the policy had been approved for consultation at the previous Committee meeting on 25 May 2016 and one consultation response had been received which had been attached at Appendix 5a to the agenda. Mrs Sharon Davies, the Head of Licensing Services outlined that this representation had resulted in a number of amendments being made to the document as attached to the agenda at Appendix 5b.

Resolved:

To recommend the Executive to approve the draft revised Sex Establishment Policy.

MINUTES OF LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING - TUESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2016

6 LICENSING SERVICE UPDATE

The Licensing Committee received an update on the details of licences applied for, dealt with and appealed during the period 1 January 2016 to 21 October 2016.

Mrs Sharon Davies, Head of Licensing Services, highlighted the forty-four new Premises Licence applications granted as no representations had been received, the three licences refused and two licences granted by the Licensing Panel, the actions of the Licensing Panel regarding the five licence reviews and the details of the one appeal pending.

Resolved:

To note the update on licences considered, dealt with and appealed.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 6.25 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
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