



Strategic Licensing
Committee

13 March 2024

Item

Public

**MINUTES OF THE STRATEGIC LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11
JANUARY 2024
10.00 - 10.16 AM**

Responsible Officer: Tim Ward

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Present

Councillors Roy Aldcroft (Chairman), Nigel Lumby (Vice Chairman), Jeff Anderson, Peter Broomhall, Garry Burchett, Mary Davies, Simon Jones, Christian Lea, Kevin Pardy, Edward Towers, Caroline Bagnall (Substitute) (substitute for Pamela Moseley) and Mike Isherwood (Substitute) (substitute for Duncan Kerr)

16 Apologies

- 16.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors David Evans, Duncan Kerr, Pam Moseley and Vivienne Parry.
- 16.2 Councillor Mike Isherwood substituted for Councillor Kerr and Councillor Caroline Bagnall substituted for Councillor Moseley

17 Minutes of Previous Meeting

- 17.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2023 had been circulated.
- 17.2 **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Strategic Licencing Committee held on 4 October 2023 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

18 Public Question Time

- 18.1 No public questions had been received. The Chair advised the meeting that representations received after the agenda was published had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting and had been placed on the council website.

19 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

- 19.1 Councillor Mary Davies declared an interest in agenda item 5 on the grounds of perceived bias due to her employment. She stated that she would take no part in the debate or voting.

20 Amendments to the Advertising Sections of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2023 - 2027

- 20.1 Members received the report of the Head of Business and Consumer Protection which set out proposed changes the advertising sections of the current Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2023 – 2027 to permit the national flag of the United Kingdom to be displayed on hackney carriages and private hire vehicles and to be used in the promotion of any private hire operator business or any other business offering a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle service.
- 20.2 The Transactional Management and Licensing – Team Manager drew Members attention to the Equality, Social Inclusion and Health Impact Assessment (ESHIA) attached as appendix 2 to the report in particular with reference to the Protected Characteristic groupings defined in the Equality Act 2010.
- 20.3 A Member commented that he felt that the changes should not be made as they were contrary to the spirit of the Equalities Act and could be seen as divisive as it was only allowing the flag of a single nation. He added that if the changes were to be made, they should include the opportunity to display all nations flags not just the Union Flag.
- 20.4 After further debate it was **RESOLVED:**

That the Committee approves the changes to the advertising sections of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2023 – 2027, as set out at Appendix 1 (column C), to take effect from 12 January 2024, and instructs the Head of Business and Consumer Protection to arrange for the amendments to be made and to publish the Policy containing the revised provisions as soon as is reasonably practicable.

21 Date of Next Meeting

- 21.1 Members were reminded that the next scheduled meeting of the Strategic Licensing Committee would be held on Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 10.00am

Signed (Chairman)

Date: