

MINUTES OF: THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 7th January 2008

**PRESENT: Mr A Neville (Chair)
Councillors Essex (substitute for Cheetham), Hancock, J. Pawson,
Thorne and Robertson (substitute for Forshaw)
Councillor Grogan (Whitworth Town Councillor)
Mr B Divine (Independent Member)**

**IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Lawley, Interim Legal and Democratic Services Manager
Heather Moore, Committee and Member Services Manager
Tracy Brzozowski, Licensing Manager**

**ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Farrington
2 Members of the Public**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cheetham and Forshaw.

2. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

4. CHAIR'S UPDATE

The Chair outlined the purpose of the special meeting.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions were raised under this item.

6. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

The Chair reported the receipt of three requests for dispensation which had been received from members of the Performance Scrutiny Committee to enable them to serve on the Special Meeting of the Committee which had been called to consider a call-in of a decision of the Cabinet relating to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Annual Licences and Fees. He highlighted that those members had previously been involved in the issue and as such had declared a personal and prejudicial interest which would prevent them from taking a full part in the proceedings of the meeting. They had therefore submitted requests for dispensation to enable them to participate fully in the meeting.

The Interim Legal and Democratic Services Manager reported that The Relevant Authorities (Standards Committee) (Dispensations) Regulations 2002 Regulation 3(2) (b) (i) did not permit a dispensation to be granted for overview and scrutiny committees.

Resolved:

That the requests for dispensations be refused and the Monitoring Officer be requested to write to the Standards Board asking them to make representations regarding the need to amend the Regulations.

(The meeting started at 5.20pm and finished at 5.35pm)