

MINUTES OF: LICENSING COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 11th July 2017

**Present: Councillor Smallridge(in the Chair)
Procter (sub for Crawforth), Lythgoe (sub for Hughes), Smith,
Johnson, Cheetham, Haworth, Eaton, and Shipley.**

**In Attendance: Phil Morton, Licensing Manager
Clare Birtwistle, Legal Services Manager
Yasmin Ahmed, Legal Officer
Joanna Wood, Committee and Member Services Officer**

Also Present: David Lawrie and Councillor Lamb

BUSINESS MATTERS

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received on behalf of Councillor Hughes(Councillor Lythgoe substituting), Councillor Crawforth (Councillor Procter substituting), and Councillor Neal. The Chair gave apologies for Councillor Farrington.

2. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on the 16th March 2017 be approved as a correct record.

3. MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Driver Sub-Committees held on the 15th March 2017, 5th April 2017, 19th April 2017, 23rd April 2017 and 22nd June 2017 be approved as a correct record.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business.

6. REPORT B1 Updated conditions for Private Hire Drivers, Vehicles and Operators

The Licensing Manager introduced the report which included amendments proposed in section 4/5/6 of the report and to adopt these amendments.

The Licensing Manager took members through the report, the responses that had been received and to seek approval of the conditions.

The Chair confirmed that Mr David Lawrie was registered to speak but would also speak on behalf of Mr David Wilson. Mr David Wilson was registered to speak, but was unable to attend the meeting due to unforeseen circumstances.

Mr David Lawrie spoke on the item and answered questions for clarification from members.

Discussion took place on the item and the Licensing Manager provided clarification as summarised below;

- Communication to drivers regarding meetings
- Fire Extinguishers in vehicles
- First Aid Kits in vehicles
- Advertising on vehicles

The Licensing Manager confirmed 400 letters were sent out to drivers and only 16 responses had been received.

Councillor Eaton moved a proposal for First Aid Kits and Fire Extinguishers not to be compulsory.

Councillor Cheetham seconded this recommendation.

Members voted on the recommendation.

For	Against	Abstain
2	6	1

The motion was lost.

Councillor Smallridge moved the recommendation of the report with a proposal to exclude gambling.

Councillor Haworth seconded this recommendation.

Members voted on the recommendation becoming a substantive motion.

For	Against	Abstain
6	1	2

The motion was carried and members voted as follows:

For	Against	Abstain
7	0	2

Resolved:

That the Licensing Committee considered the revised conditions in relation to private hire drivers, vehicles and operators proposed at appendices **4,5 and 6**

including provisions in relation to first aid kits, fire extinguishers, trailers and commercial advertising and determined to adopt the revised conditions, along with the exclusion of inappropriate advertising on vehicles.

7. REPORT B2 Update on implementation of previously adopted taxi licensing conditions.

The Licensing Manager introduced the report which included an update on the implementation of the policies.

Mr David Lawrie spoke on the item and answered questions for clarification from members.

Discussion took place on the item and the Legal Services Manager and Licensing Manager provided clarification where required as summarised below;

- Implementation of the test
- Pass and failure rates of the test

The Licensing Manager confirmed the test was fully implemented and that Part two of the test was conducted by an outside company who needed a minimum of 25 people to process the test. The Licensing Department were also looking at combining the test with other local authorities.

The Licensing Manager also confirmed that the failure rate is due to lack of knowledge of the local area and that no locally based drivers had failed the knowledge test. New Applicants who don't live or work in the area of Rossendale were also failing the test.

The Licensing Manager updated members on the cost of new conditions to the trade and clarified that the knowledge test was free for existing drivers who renew their licence. He also confirmed that efforts to source funding to subsidise CCTV were ongoing.

Members voted on the recommendation of the report as follows:

For	Against	Abstain
9	0	0

Resolved:

The Licensing Committee noted the updates in relation to the Taxi Licensing Policy.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed 7.30pm

CHAIR: _____

