

Time commenced 6:05 pm
Time finished 7:13 pm

**TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE
5 DECEMBER 2013**

Present: Councillor Jackson (Chair)
Councillors Atwal, Barker, Harwood, Keith, J Khan, S Khan, Poulter,
Redfern, Sandhu, Skelton, Whitby and F Winter

25/13 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Roberts and L Winter.

26/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

27/12 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2013 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

28/12 Experimental Traffic Regulation Order Update – The Strand

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods on the experimental traffic regulation order at The Strand. The officer reported that the Strategic Director for Neighbourhoods and the Cabinet Member had considered the objections raised but a formal decision was to be announced to make the closure permanent. It was noted that the objectors would be notified accordingly.

Members raised concerns as to whether the impact on the businesses in the vicinity had been considered and requested further detail on the justification from officers at the next meeting of the Committee.

Resolved:

- 1. to note the report**
- 2. to receive an update at a future meeting of the Committee.**

29/12 Medical Checks for Licensed Drivers

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods on medical checks for licensed drivers.

Members questioned how recently the medical form had been reviewed and/or updated by officers to ensure that it was up to date and fit for purpose. The officer responded that it had been some time since the form had been revised. The Committee suggested that officers review the form and bring any amendments to the next scheduled meeting.

The Committee raised concern that not all GP practices may provide the service required, as it's an optional revenue generator. It was reported by officers that should this be the case, if the licensed driver/applicant was willing to release their medical records to another GP and provide written notification to the local authority they could have their medical carried out by a third party GP.

Resolved

- 1. to require that medical examinations carried out for licensed drivers is always undertaken by a registered GP at their own practice in order that an accurate assessment of their medical fitness can be determined and ensure public safety;**
- 2. to require that, should a GP practice not provide this service to its patients, the licensed driver/applicant must provide the Council with (a) formal written confirmation from their GP practice that this is the case and (b) also that they authorise their GP practice to release their medical records to the third party GP undertaking the examination;**
- 3. to implement the 1 and 2 by 1 April 2014.**

30/12 Taxi Licensing Fees and Charges 2014/15

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods on the taxi licensing fees and charges for 2014/15.

The officer reported to Members that the formula for the calculation had been revised due to a previous legal challenge.

The Committee welcomed the report and thanked officers for their work.

Resolved

- 1. to approve, subject to the consideration of representations, the proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2014/15;**
- 2. to request the Service Director of Environment and Regulatory Services to advertise the proposed variation of fees;**
- 3. to consider any representations received within the required period and take appropriate action if required;**
- 4. to approve the new licence fees to become affective from 1 April 2014 subject to the consideration of any representations received during the required period.**

31/12 Taxi Licensing Administration and Compliance
Activities – Quarter 2 2013/14

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods on the taxi licensing administration and compliance activities.

Resolved to note the report.