

Item 4

Time Commenced: 6:00pm

Time Finished: 6:30pm

LICENSING COMMITTEE

28 January 2021

Present: Councillor A Atwal (Chair)
Councillors: Cooper, Hezelgrave, A Holmes, Hudson, J Khan,
Marshall, Pearce, Peatfield, A Pegg, Sandhu, Skelton and Smale.

In Attendance: Lucie Keeler – Solicitor – Legal Services
Mike Kay – Head of Environmental Protection, Housing
Standards, Licensing, Emergency Planning and Business
Continuity
Angela Rawson – Team Leader - Licensing

21/20 Apologies

No apologies were received

22/20 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items, although members did request that an update on the impact of the Covid pandemic, on the trade, be brought to the next Licensing Committee.

23/20 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

24/20 Minutes of the Meetings held on 5 November 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2020 were confirmed as an accurate record.

A question was asked when an update would be brought to the Committee on the Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards, as it was discussed at the meeting on 5 November, and agreed then, that the Licensing Committee would receive regular updates. Acknowledgement was given that this was currently being looked at by officers and an update would be brought to the next Licensing Committee in March.

25/20 Taxi Licensing Fees and Charges 2021/22

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Public Protection and Streetpride. Team Leader - Licensing presented the report which detailed information on the proposed license fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licenses and other charges for 2021/22.

The Team Leader – Licensing confirmed that these fees and charges are reviewed annually and are self-funding, meaning that they are non profit making and levels set at cost recovery. The Committee were informed that whilst there had been an increase in the cost of providing the service, cost savings from other areas would be used, so as the costs were not passed onto the drivers, given the difficulties they have faced during the Covid pandemic. Full details of the current fees and charges and the proposed fees and charges were provided to the Committee Members at Appendix 1 of the report.

Resolved to:

- 1. Approve, subject to the consideration of any representations, the proposed license fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licenses and other charges for 2021/22 as set out at Appendix 1 of the report**
- 2. Request the Service Director of Public Protection and Streetpride to advertise the proposed fees and charges.**
- 3. Delegate to the Service Director of Public Protection and Streetpride following consultation with the Chair, to consider any representations received within the required period and to take appropriate action if required to address such representations.**
- 4. Approve the new licence fees and charges to become effective from 1 April 2021, subject to there not being any representations received during the required period, or where any such representations have been considered.**

26/20 General Licensing Fees and Charges 2021/22

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Public Protection and Streetpride. The Head of Environmental Protection, Housing Standards, Licensing, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity presented the report which detailed the proposed fees and charges for 2021/22 due to commence 1 April 2021. Full details of current charges and proposed fees were provided in the appendices attached to the report. It was acknowledged that these fees and charges are all reviewed annually.

Resolved to:

- 1. Approve the proposed fees and charges for 2021/22 set out at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.**
- 2. Note the statutory fees and charges made under the Licensing Act 2003 set out at Appendix 3.**

27/20 Boat & Boatman Licensing Policy

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Public Protection and Streetpride. Team Leader - Licensing presented the report which asked members to consider the proposal for the introduction of a Boat & Boatman Licensing Policy following adoption of Section 94 Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907 (the Act) by Full Council on 25 November 2020. The policy was attached at appendix 1.

The Committee were informed that there would be an application process, with qualification, DBS checks and licensing fee, for any boatman similar to the taxi license driver process. Discussion was held over health and safety and equality training along with safeguarding issues and reassurances were given that full consideration had been given to these matters in drawing up the policy. As this is a new policy, Committee were asked to approve a consultation period of 4 weeks for this policy, if no objections received the policy will then be adopted and applications, for licenses can be received.

Resolved to:

- 1. Consider the draft Boat & Boatman Policy attached at Appendix 1**
- 2. Approve release for a 4-week consultation period, following which the Policy will be approved as drafted should there be no objections received.**
- 3. Delegate authority to make changes to the draft policy following any minor responses to the consultation, to the Head of Service for Licensing and the Licensing Manager in consultation with the Chair of the Committee. Any highly contentious matters to be referred back to the Licensing Committee for full consideration.**
- 4. Receive progress report at a future meeting**
- 5. Approve the fees as set out in Paragraph 4.7 of the report.**
- 6. Receive regular updates on any amendments made to the policy**

MINUTES END