

Time Commenced: 6:00pm

Time Finished: 6.34pm

## **LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**18 January 2018**

**Present:** Councillor Sandhu (Chair)  
Councillors Ashburner, Barker, Froggatt, Hezelgrave, A Holmes, Keith, J Khan, S Khan, Pegg, Poulter and Smale

**In Attendance:** Olu Idowu – Head of Legal Services  
Mike Kay – Head of Environmental Health and Licensing  
Sandra Mansell – Team Leader – Licensing  
Jody Shelton – Democratic Services Officer

### **28/17 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ingall and Winter.

### **29/17 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair**

In accordance with Section 100 (B) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed to admit the following late item on the grounds that it should be considered as a matter of urgency because a decision was required before the next meeting:

Consultation: Relaxation of Licensing Hours for the Royal Wedding.

### **30/17 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **31/17 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 November 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

### **32/17 Gambling Act Statement of Principles Consultation**

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on the Gambling Act Statement of Principles Consultation. It was reported that Derby City Council was the designated Licensing Authority under the Gambling Act 2005 and was required to produce a Statement of Principles which set out how it will exercise its functions under the Act. The statement must be reviewed at least once every three years, the next revised document was due to be published by the end of December 2018.

**Resolved to approve the process of consultation on a revised Statement of Principles for publication by the end of December 2018.**

### **33/17      General Licensing Fees and Charges 2018/19**

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on the General Licensing Fees and Charges 2018/19. It was reported that the Communities & Place Directorate annually reviews its fees and charges across its range of services. This was to ensure that the fees and charges reflect the cost of delivering services and that inflationary cost increases were taken into account. The proposed fees and charges for 2018/19 commencing 1 April 2018 were set out in the report. The amounts charged were either set by statute or were based on recovering the costs incurred.

#### **Resolved**

- 1. To approve the proposed fees and charges for 2018/19 as set out in appendix 2 and 3 of the report;**
- 2. To note the fees and charges made under the Licensing Act 2003 set out in appendix 4 of the report.**

### **34/17      Update on the Condition and Safety of Licensed Vehicles**

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on the update on the Condition and Safety of Licensed Vehicles. It was reported that following correspondence from Derbyshire Constabulary raising concerns about the condition and safety of the private hire and hackney carriage fleet in the city, a cross party working group (CPWG) met to consider the introduction of measures to address these concerns. The report set out the measures proposed by the CPWG to address the issues raised.

It was reported that where air quality falls below the national standards, the local authority was required to declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and develop a plan which identified how air quality standards would be improved. In Derby, air quality monitoring has identified that vehicle exhaust emissions were a principal source of air pollution and this had resulted in the creation of an Air Quality Management Area along the major road networks which cross the city.

The council aimed to ensure that taxi and private hire vehicles were of a good standard. It recognised that the high mileage and general wear and tear sustained by vehicles would have an impact on their continued serviceability over a period of time. In the interests of passenger safety and comfort and in support of these air quality concerns, the council was proposing to change the frequency of licensed vehicle testing and introduce a new requirement that all new vehicle licences were only issued to vehicles that were less than five years old.

Members were mostly in agreement with the report, but challenged that due to the high cost involved in purchasing Hackney Carriages and the longevity of these vehicles, it was suggested that the consultation be extended to 7, 10, 12 and 15 years.

**Resolved**

- 1. To authorise a 12 week statutory consultation with the trade and public on the following proposals:**

- i. The introduction of two tests a year for all licensed vehicles irrespective of age**
- ii. To introduce a requirement that new vehicle licences will only be issued to vehicles as follows:**

Age at first registration	Private Hire	Hackney Carriages
5		
7		
10		
12		
15		

- 2. To note and, if considered appropriate, to authorise the need for further development work on the other matters set out at paragraph 4.4 (iii) & (iv), 4.6 and 4.7 of the report;**
- 3. To request the Service Director for Communities, Environmental and Regulatory Services to report any consultation responses to a future meeting of the Committee.**

## **35/17 Taxi Licensing Fees and Charges 2018/19**

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on the Taxi Licensing Fees and Charges 2018/19. The report provided information on the proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2018/19.

**Resolved**

- 2.1 To approve, subject to the consideration of representations, the proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2018/19 as set out at Appendix 3 of the**

report;

- 2.2 To request the Service Director of Communities, Environment and Regulatory Services to advertise the proposed variation of fees;**
- 2.3 To delegate to the Service Director of Communities, Environment and Regulatory Services 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;**
- 2.4 To approve the new licence fees to become effective from 1 April 2018, subject to there not being any representations received during the required period, or where any such representations have been withdrawn.**

### **36/17 Consultation: Relaxation of Licensing Hours for the Royal Wedding**

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on the Consultation, Relaxation of Licensing Hours for the Royal Wedding. It was reported that the Government proposed to make a licensing hours order to mark the occasion of the Royal wedding of Prince Henry and Meghan Markle in May 2018.

**Resolved to respond to the questions asked within the consultation document.**

MINUTES END