

TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

18 APRIL 2012

Present: Councillor Marshall (in the Chair)
Councillors Atwal, Barker, Harwood, Jackson, S Khan, Leeming, Rawson, Redfern, Richards, Tuplin, Whitby, F Winter and L Winter

25/11 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence received.

26/11 Late Items to be introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

27/11 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

28/11 Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2012

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 March 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

29/11 Approval of Testing Stations for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Inspections

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods on the approval of testing stations. It was reported that the existing approved testing stations contracts were due to expire on 24 April 2012. Interested parties were invited to tender in line with the Council's current Procurement Policy and were measured against specific award criteria. The new contracts will expire on 31 March 2015.

Members raised concerns that some applicants had insufficient information provided, and whether they were given an opportunity to provide this at the later date. It was reported that those applicants were approached by the procurement team and asked to provide any missing information.

The Committee noted that they were pleased that there had been so many applications, which provided more competition between garages and a wider choice for drivers to choose from.

Members asked officers whether within the tender specification it allowed for garages to be open out of hours. It was reported that this was not written into

the specification but some garages would open out of hours with prior appointment of the licensing team, usually as part of enforcement work.

Concern was raised with regards to the procedure that enforcement officers have to follow when they are dealing with drivers. Officers noted that this was a separate issue and suggested that this was dealt with at the next meeting of the Committee.

Resolved to approve the seven testing stations that met the required criteria for inclusion on the Council's list of Specified Testing Stations.

MINUTES END