

Time commenced 6:26 pm
Time finished 7:36 pm

**TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE
29 AUGUST 2013**

Present: Councillor Jackson (Chair)
Councillors Harwood, Keith, J Khan, Redfern, Roberts, Sandhu, Skelton
and Whitby

10/13 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Atwal, Poulter, S Khan, F Winter and L Winter.

11/13 Late Items to be introduced by the Chair

1972, the information In accordance with Section 100(B) (4) of the Local Government Act
Chair agreed to admit the following items on the grounds that the
was not available at the time the agenda was published:

- Garage Services for the Inspection and Testing of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles

12/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

13/12 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2013 as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

14/12 The Use of Third Party Vehicles by Private Hire Operators

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods on the use of third party vehicles by private hire operators. It was noted that this report was following a request for a review to be undertaken in relation to the use by private hire operators of third party vehicles particularly hackney carriages, licensed by other authorities. The Committee had resolved to authorise a consultation with private hire operators, private hire vehicles licence holders and hackney carriage vehicles licence holders on the basis of proposals and report the findings to the Committee. Officers reported that over 1200 consultation packs were sent out of which 76 responses/ comments were received back. It was noted that having considered the responses, recommendations were provided by officers to reflect these.

Members noted that there was no set notice period for any amendments to the operators and vehicle conditions and so suggested that officers inform licence holders and operators that any amendments would be in place by 1 October 2013.

The Committee felt that it would be useful for the residents in the City to be informed of the policy amendments and the potential dangers of using a non Derby City plated vehicle by sending out a press release clarifying the position of the Committee, highlighting that the changes were in the interest of residents and that the Committee were trying to protect residents as best they could within the law.

Resolved

- 1. To adopt the provisions, as set out in the report, as additional conditions, to be attached, as appropriate, to private hire operators licences, private hire vehicle licences and hackney carriage vehicle licences with effect as from 1 October 2013;**
- 2. To amend the operators conditions and vehicle conditions as reflected within the report with effect as from 1 October 2013;**
- 3. To request the Service Director of Environment and Regulatory Services to send a copy of the revised conditions, as appropriate, to private hire operators licences, private hire vehicle licences and hackney carriage vehicle licences;**
- 4. To request the Service Director of Environment and Regulatory Services to arrange a press release highlighting the potential dangers of using a non Derby City plated vehicle and explaining the amendments to the revised conditions.**

15/13 The Provision of Fire Extinguishers and First Aid Kits in Licensed Vehicles

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods on provision of fire extinguishers and first aid kits in licensed vehicles. It was noted that this report was following a request for a review to be undertaken on the requirement for first aid kits and fire extinguishers in licensed vehicles. The Committee had resolved to undertake a consultation process on the proposed changes and report the findings back to Members. The Committee noted that 1200 consultation packs were sent to private hire vehicle owners and hackney carriage vehicle owners, yet only 6 responses/comments were received. The officer reported that they believed the first aid kit should comply with an appropriate British Standard, and would be appropriate to adopt the small work place first aid kit that complied with BS 8599-

1:2011, and the fire extinguisher an efficient AFFF foam fire extinguisher with a normal capacity of no less than 1 litre, that complied with the British Standards Institution BS EN3.

The Committee noted that there was no set notice period for any amendments to the operators and vehicle conditions and so suggested that officers inform licence holders and operators that any amendments would be in place by 1 October 2013.

Members noted that the licence holders/drivers would not be expected to endanger themselves using the fire extinguisher or carry out first aid, these would be a just in case item.

Resolved

- 1. To approve the requirement for licensed vehicles to be installed with a Small Work Place First Aid Kit as specified in BS 8599-1:2011 with effect as from 1 October 2013;**
- 2. To approve the requirement for licensed vehicles to be installed with an AFFF foam fire extinguisher with a nominal capacity of no less than 1 litre minimum, which complies with the British Standards Institution BS EN3 specification for portable fire extinguishers with effect as from 1 October 2013;**
- 3. To amend the Council's Supplementary Testing Manual, Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence Conditions and Private Hire Vehicle Licence Conditions to reflect the approved changes as set out in recommendations above.**

16/13 Taxi Licensing Administration and Compliance Activities – Quarter One 2013/14

The Committee considered a report from the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods which provided information on the activities the licensing service had undertaken during quarter one of the 2013/14 financial year.

Resolved to note the report.

17/13 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved in accordance with section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting during discussion of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

17/13 Garage Services for the Inspection and Testing of
Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles

The Committee received a report from the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods on the garage services for the inspection and testing of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles. It was reported that the concerns had been raised in relation to the testing standards of one of the approved garages. The Committee noted that there were potential breaches of the contract which would need to be referred back to the Committee for consideration.

Resolved to hold a special meeting of the Taxi Licensing and Appeals Committee on a date to be agreed with the Chair.

MINUTES END