

Time commenced: 6.00pm  
Time adjourned: 6.11pm  
Time recommenced: 6.16pm  
Time finished: 8.54pm

**TAXI LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE  
23 APRIL 2008**

Present: Councillor Dhamrait (in the Chair)  
Councillors Baxter, Hird, Hussain, Jennings, Leeming, Lowe,  
Khan, Redfern and Skelton.

**24/08 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Rawson and Poulter.

**25/08 Late Items Introduced by the Chair**

There were no late items.

**26/08 Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**27/08 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Taxi  
Licensing and Appeals Committee held on 13  
February 2008**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2008 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**28/08 The Proposed Use of Rickshaw's in Derby City  
Centre**

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services on the proposed use of Rickshaw's in Derby City Centre. There were currently two requests for the Council to approve the use of rickshaws within the City Centre. Both proposals were to carry passengers around the City Centre free of charge. They will be propelled by either pedal power alone, or by a combination of pedal and battery power.

A representative attended the meeting to promote the benefits of the Rickshaws to the Committee.

Members raised concerns about the use of pedestrian areas within the City Centre as this has always caused problems with cyclists.

It was noted that the Rickshaws would not be accessible to all but would need to comply with the Disabled Discrimination Act by 2010. This may need looking into further from a legal perspective.

A proposal was put forward and seconded that the item be deferred so a Cross Party Working Group could be set up and examine the implications of licensing rickshaws and report back to the next scheduled meeting with their recommendations.

**Resolved to defer the above item to the next scheduled meeting.**

## 29/08      The Proposed Use of 'Tuk Tuks' in Derby

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services on the proposed use of Tuk Tuks in Derby City Centre. A request had been received for the Council to approve the use of tuk tuks within the City Centre. The application was for a tuk tuk limousine which has a larger rear compartment, seating up to six passengers. Tuk tusk are fitted with a water-cooled two-stroke engine.

A representative attended the meeting to promote the benefits of the Tuk Tuks to the Committee.

A proposal was put forward and seconded that the item be deferred so a Cross Party Working Group could be set up and examine the implications of licensing tuk tuks and report back to the next scheduled meeting with their recommendations.

**Resolved to defer the above item to the next scheduled meeting.**

## 30/08      Proposed Increase in Hackney Carriage Tariff

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services on the proposed increase in Hackney Carriage tariff. A request was received from the Hackney Carriage Trade representatives to consider an increase in the hackney carriage tariff on the basis that it is now over two years since the last tariff increase.

It was noted that usually there was a consensus between operators before the Committee made a decision.

A proposal was put forward and seconded that the item be deferred until the next meeting of the Committee, pending all parties agreeing to the changes.

**Resolved to defer the above item to the next scheduled meeting.**

## 31/08 Request for Relaxation of 'Contract Hire' Exemption Regime

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services on a request for relaxation of 'Contract Hire' exemption regime. Contract Exemption relates to vehicles being exempt from the licensing regime when used as a private hire vehicle on a contract for more than 7 days. Two letters had been received from companies affected by the removal.

Three representatives from the executive car hire trade attended the meeting to put forward their concerns to the Committee.

Members raised concerns that there had been little consultation with the executive trade, although it was noted that the contract hire exemption was a deliberate act by Parliament to subject executive car hire and other chauffeur driven services to regulation and create parity with other licensed drivers/cars.

A proposal was put forward and seconded that the item be deferred so that officers could meet with trade representatives to seek their views and report these back to a Cross Party Working Group who would then make recommendations to the next scheduled Committee.

**Resolved to defer the above item to the next scheduled meeting.**

## 32/08 Taxi Licensing Section – Additional Staffing Requirements

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services on Taxi Licensing Section – Additional Staffing Requirements. The report recommended the creation of an additional part time Licensing Officer post to help meet the service standards.

**Resolved to endorse the conversion of the temporary Licensing Officer post to a permanent post to be funded from licensing income.**

## 33/08 Use of Bus Lanes by Hackney Carriages

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services on the use of bus lanes by Hackney Carriage. Following representations from the taxi trade at the last Committee the Chair wrote to the Director of Regeneration and Community to suggest he consider the request.

**Resolved to note the response.**

### 34/08 Taxi Licensing Section – Statistics for Licensing and Enforcement Activities – Quarter 1, 2008

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services on Taxi Licensing Section – Statistics for Licensing and Enforcement Activities – Quarter 1 2008.

**Resolved to note the report.**

### 35/08 Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider a resolution to exclude the press and public during consideration of the following items:

“that under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 7 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”

### 36/08 Appeal Against Revocation of Private Hire Operator's Licence and Private Hire Driver's Licence

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Corporate and Adult Services on an appeal against revocation of private hire operator's licence and private hire driver's licence.

**Resolved to note the outcome of Mr Ul-Haq's appeal against the decision to revoke his Private Hire Operator's Licence and Private Hire Driver's Licence.**

MINUTES END