

Time Commenced: 6:00pm
Time Finished: 6:40pm

LICENSING COMMITTEE
30 June 2022

Present: Councillor J Khan (Chair)
Councillors: Atwal, Evans, Hezelgrave, A Holmes, Hussain,
Jennings, Lindsey, Pandey, T Pearce, Peatfield, Potter and Skelton

In Attendance: Olu Idowu – Head of Legal Services
Mike Kay – Head of Environmental Protection, Housing
Standards, Licensing, Emergency Planning and Business
Continuity
Angela Rawson – Service Manager, Licensing

01/22 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Ingall and Sandhu

02/22 Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items

03/22 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

04/22 Minutes of the Meetings held on 27 January 2022

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting

**05/22 General Licensing Administration & Compliance
Activities 2021/22**

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Public Protection and Streetpride. The Service Manager presented the report which provided the Committee with information on the activities the general licensing service has undertaken from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. The Service Manager confirmed the number of general licensing applications was now being to raise and business was growing as things were returning to normal after the pandemic. Full details of figures were attached to the report at appendix 1 of the report

The Committee were informed that the Licensing Team were now undertaking compliance visits to premises and carried out some inter agency inspections with

other authorities. The appendix to the report also gave the Committee details of how many Suspension Notices had been issued along with the financial information on these.

Resolved to note the report

**06/22 Taxi Licensing Administration & Compliance
Activities 2021/22**

The Committee received a report from the Director of Public Protection and Streetpride. The Service Manager presented the report which provided the Committee with information on the activities the taxi licensing service has undertaken from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. Full details of the type of activity undertaken and statistics were attached to the report as Appendices 1 – 5.

Resolved to note the report

**07/22 Proposed Increase to Hackney Carriage Vehicle
Table of Fares**

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 giving details of a proposal, from representatives of the hackney carriage trade to increase the hackney carriage fares. The proposal was attached as appendix 1. The Committee were informed that the reference to 'all bank holidays' in tariffs 2 & 6 actually conflicted with the wording in tariffs 4 & 8 which were the proposed fares for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. The Head of Environmental Protection, Housing Standards, Licensing, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity advised that the wording in tariffs 2 & 6 needed amending to say specifically 'Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day, Spring Bank Holiday and August Bank Holiday' in order to remove the conflict with the term 'all bank holidays'

Members were asked to note to addition of two extra tariffs (3 & 7) which set out a new weekend night time rate, one for less than 5 passengers, one for 5 or more passengers. Committee were also asked to note the changes to some of the days and timings to some of the tariffs as well as some of the distance travelled figures. Appendix 2 of the report gave Committee full details of the current fares.

The Head of Environmental Protection, Housing Standards, Licensing, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity confirmed that 64% of the total licensed hackney carriages (118 drivers) supported the proposed increases, which were worked out at being just over a 16% increase to fares. The Committee were reminded that this proposed increase of fares would apply to

Hackney carriages only and private hire vehicles were not included in the proposal before them. Committee were informed that once they agreed the tariffs this would be the maximum a proprietor would be able to charge, though, if they wished they would be able to charge less.

The Head of Environmental Protection, Housing Standards, Licensing, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity informed that Committee that any changes to Hackney carriage fares must be advertised stating the table of fares and the variation and the date of the increase, being not less than fourteen days from the date of the publication.

Committee asked for clarity on when the last increase of Hackney carriage fares was implemented and were informed that there hadn't been an increase since 2017. The Committee then debated whether a 16% increase was too large and discussed how Derby City Council Hackney Carriage fares compared against fares in other local authorities. An increase of 10% was then proposed. Committee voted on the proposal and the increase of 16% was agreed as being a fair increase considering the cost of living, comparison to charges in other Local Authorities and the fact there had been no increase in fares since 2017.

Resolved to:

- 1. consider and determine a request for the variation of the table of fares for the hire of hackney carriages in Derby set out at Appendix 1, subject to the amendments and clarity to the tariffs for bank holidays**
- 2. authorise the Head of Licensing to advertise any proposed variation in the table of fares for a period of 21 days.**
- 3. subject to consideration of any objections to the advertisement, the variation shall come into effect on the date of the expiration of the period specified in the notice or the date of withdrawal of the objection or, if more than one, of the last objection, whichever date is the later.**

08/22 Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (Disabled Persons) Act 2022

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 providing information on new legislative provisions set out in the Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (Disabled Persons) Act 2022, ensuring that disabled people will be able to use taxi and private hire vehicles with confidence that they will not be discriminated against. Committee were informed that this Act came into force on 28 June 2022 and will amend the Equality Act 2010. This new Act required the Council to keep a list of all licensed taxis and private hire vehicles they designate

as being wheelchair accessible and Committee were informed this was something Derby City were already doing.

The Head of Environmental Protection, Housing Standards, Licensing, Emergency Planning and Business Continuity outlined how drivers may apply for exemptions to being a wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) on medical or physical grounds and briefed Committee on steps the Council needed to take to meet the new requirements along with the requirements that were being made of the taxi and private hire vehicle drivers.

Resolved to:

- 1. note the contents of the report.**
- 2. approve the proposal set out in Paragraph 4.6 of the report.**
- 3. approve the proposals set out in Paragraphs 4.8 and 4.12 of the report.**

**09/22 Consultation on Adoption of Touring Caravan and
Camp Sites Licence Conditions**

The Committee received a report from the Director of Public Protection and Streetpride. The Service Manager presented the report which asked the Committee to consider the need to consult on the adoption of the Touring Caravan and Camp Site Licence Conditions. The Committee were informed that an enquiry had been received about a touring caravan and camp site. It was confirmed that Derby City Council had already adopted model conditions for residential mobile home sites and Committee were being asked to approve a twelve week consultation exercise to be carried out on the proposed licencing conditions for touring caravan and camp site, with the findings being brought back to a future committee hearing.

Resolved to approve carrying out a public consultation exercise on the adoption of the Touring Caravan and Camp Site Licence Conditions.

MINUTES END