TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2008

Present: Councillor Baxter (Chair)

Councillors Banwait, Berry, Leeming, Lowe, Poulter, Rawson,

Richards, Skelton and Winter

09/08 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hird, Hussain, Redfern and Williams.

10/08 Late items introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

11/08 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

12/08 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2008 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

13/08 Amendments to Delegation of Powers

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services on Amendments to Delegation of Powers. There are large numbers of new applications and cases concerning existing licences for hackney carriage and private hire vehicles and drivers currently being presented to Committee. The Group Leader of Taxi Licensing had to schedule a whole day of interviews every three weeks, which subsequently lead to a hearing of the Taxi Licensing Appeals Sub-Committee every three weeks. The proposals represent a means of better utilising available resources more productively.

Resolved

1. To recommend full Council to approve the amendments to delegation of powers.

14/08 Multi-agency Taxi Licensing Enforcement at East Midlands Airport

The Committee considered a report on Multi-agency Taxi Licensing Enforcement at East Midlands Airport. Taxi Enforcement Officers took part in two multi-agency enforcement exercises at East Midlands Airport, one in June and another in September 2008. The exercises were organised by North West Leicestershire District Council and were attended by Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire Local Authorities, Leicestershire Police, Leicestershire Road Policing Unit (RPU), Vehicle Operator Service Agency (VOSA), Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and H M Revenue and Customs.

Resolved to note the report.

15/08 Statistics for Taxi Licensing & Enforcement Activities – Quarters 1 & 2 2008

The Committee considered a report on Statistics for Taxi Licensing & Enforcement Activities – Quarters 1 & 2 2008. It was noted that an increase in private hire vehicle and drivers' licenses issued has been observed in the first six months compared to the same period last year. This may be in part due to the contract exemption removal, which meant previously unlicensed chauffeur vehicles and drivers required licensing.

Resolved to note the report.

MINUTES END