

Time commenced – 7.20 pm
Time finished – 8.00 pm

**TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE
25 MARCH 2009**

Present: Councillor Redfern (Chair)
Councillors Baxter, Berry, Hussain, Leeming, Lowe, Rawson,
Skelton and Winter

26/08 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Banwait, Hird, Poulter and Williams.

27/08 Late items introduced by the Chair

The Chair introduced the following late item:

Outcome of Recent Appeal – minute no 33 /08 refers

28/08 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

29/08 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

30/08 Approval of Taxi Vehicle Testing Stations

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services detailing applications for inclusion on the Council's list of specified testing stations. The Committee were also asked to consider whether to relax the conditions prohibiting testing stations that hold motor dealership franchises from carrying out warranty work on hackney carriage and private hire licensed vehicles and whether to relax the conditions prohibiting all testing stations from repairing and/or servicing hackney carriage and private hire vehicles.

Resolved:

- 1. To approve the testing stations identified A-F for inclusion on the Council's list of specified testing stations.**

- 2. To approve the relaxing of the conditions prohibiting testing stations that hold motor dealership franchises from carrying out warranty work on hackney carriage and private hire licensed vehicles.**
- 3. To approve the request to relax the conditions prohibiting all testing stations from repairing and/or servicing hackney carriage and private hire licensed vehicles.**

31/08 Advertising on Private Hire Rickshaws

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services regarding the waiving of the condition prohibiting advertising on Private Hire Rickshaws.

Resolved

- 1. To approve the waiver of the condition prohibiting advertising on Private Hire Rickshaws and that the same criteria set out in the Hackney Carriage Advertising Policy about the type and nature of advertising must be adhered to.**
- 2. To review the waiver in 12 months.**

32/08 Private Hire Rickshaw Licence Fees and Exemption of Knowledge Test for Riders

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Environmental Services regarding the proposed reduction in fee for Private Hire Rickshaw licences and Rickshaw Riders licences. The Committee were also asked to consider waiving the requirement to sit and pass a knowledge test for Private Hire Rickshaw Riders.

The proposal suggested a reduced annual vehicle licence fee of £30 for the Rickshaw and an annual fee of £75 for the Rickshaw Rider.

Resolved

- 1. To approve the reduced fee for Private Hire Rickshaw licences and Rickshaw Drivers licences.**
- 2. To waive the requirement to sit and pass a knowledge test for Private Hire Rickshaw Drivers (subject to a stand-alone drivers licence being issued that does not entitle the holder to drive a licensed vehicle other than a rickshaw).**

3. To review the fees and the knowledge test requirement for Private Hire Rickshaw Riders in 12 months.

33/08 Outcome of Recent Appeal

The Committee considered an oral report from Olu Idowu – Principal Solicitor, regarding the outcome of a recent Taxi Licensing Appeal. The Committee were advised that the magistrates had overturned the Sub-Committee's decision and costs had been awarded against the Council. The decision was currently the subject of an application to the magistrates' court to state a case, following receipt of which the Legal Division would consider the appropriateness of an appeal against the magistrates' decision. It had been agreed that Officers would not be providing future Sub-Committee's with an Officer recommendation.

Resolved to note the report.

MINUTES END