
SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL
LICENSING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 DECEMBER 2018

Present: Councillors Mrs Blatchford (Chair), B Harris, Leggett, Parnell and Streets

Apologies: Councillors J Baillie, Bogle, Furnell, McEwing and T Thomas

11. **APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)**

The apologies of Councillors J Baillie, Bogle, Furnell, McEwing and T Thomas were noted.

12. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

13. **HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENCES – UNMET DEMAND SURVEY**

The Committee considered the report of the Service Director Transactions and Universal Services seeking approval to retain the current numerical restriction on hackney carriage licences.

Clive Johnson, Radio Taxis Drivers' Association, Ian Hall, Southampton Hackney Association and GMB Union, Perry McMillan, Unite Union and Phil Bates, Licensing Manager were present and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

RESOLVED that the current numerical restriction on hackney carriages be retained.

14. **PRIVATE HIRE KNOWLEDGE TEST**

The Committee considered the report of the Service Director Transactions and Universal Services seeking approval to continue with the current content of the test for new private hire drivers.

Clive Johnson, Radio Taxis Drivers' Association, Ian Hall, Southampton Hackney Association and GMB Union, Perry McMillan, Unite Union and Phil Bates, Licensing Manager were present and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

The current test had been introduced in January 2018 with the agreement that a review would take place after one year. The Committee noted the balance between discouraging drivers (as had happened in the past due to the test being more challenging) and encouraging out of town drivers who do not have cameras in their vehicles and may not know the topography of the area as well as local drivers.

A motion was proposed and it was agreed to amend the Recommendation as follows: To review the process again in another year and to review the test at that time in relation to drivers' location knowledge.

RESOLVED that the current test content continue subject to the process being reviewed again after one year including the element relating to drivers' location knowledge.