
SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL
LICENSING COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 JULY 2019

Present: Councillors Blatchford (Chair), Bunday, G Galton, B Harris, Kataria, McEwing, Renyard and Streets

Apologies: Councillors Noon, Prior and Spicer

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

Apologies were received from Councillors Noon, Prior and Spicer.

The Panel noted the resignation of Councillor Noon and the appointment of Councillor Bunday in place thereof in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 4.3.

2. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

RESOLVED that Councillor McEwing be appointed as Vice-Chair for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

4. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - LEGAL ADVICE**

RESOLVED that at a predetermined point during the consideration of all items the Committee may move into private session in order to receive legal advice when determining issues. The parties to the hearing, press and the public, unless otherwise excluded by the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005, will be invited to return immediately following that private session at which time the matter will be determined and the decision of the Committee would be announced.

5. **CHANGE OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE CONDITIONS – CLEAN AIR**

The Committee considered the report of the Service Director – Transactions and Universal Services detailing proposed changes to vehicle conditions following the Special Cabinet Meeting on 22 January 2019 to deliver compliance with the EU limit for nitrogen dioxide.

Representatives of the Taxi Trade were in attendance and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

RESOLVED

- (i) That conditions to the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Conditions to restrict and then end the use of Euro 5 category diesel engine vehicles be approved; and
- (ii) That conditions to the Private Hire Vehicle Conditions to restrict and then end the use of Euro 5 category diesel engine vehicles be approved.

6. **SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS**

The Committee considered the report of the Service Director Transactions and Universal Services seeking the adoption of a policy requiring all Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers to undertake approved Safeguarding Training every three years.

Representatives of the Taxi Trade were in attendance and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

RESOLVED

- (i) That amendments to both the Hackney Carriage Driver's policy and the Private Hire Driver's policy requiring drivers to undertake approved in person Safeguarding training every three years be approved; and
- (ii) That a transition period for existing drivers be approved.

7. **POLICY TO DETERMINE THE SUITABILITY OF APPLICANTS AND LICENSEES IN THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE TRADES**

The Committee considered the report of the Service Director Transactions and Universal Services proposing a new policy to assist in applying the fit and proper person test with regards to Licenses issued under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

Representatives of the Taxi Trade were in attendance and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

RESOLVED that the policy as shown in Appendix 1 of the report to replace the present Policy relating to the fitness and propriety of applicants and licence holders be approved with the exception of Paragraph 4.42 which be replaced with:-

"A minor traffic or vehicle related offence is one which does not involve loss of life, driving under the influence of drink or drugs, driving whilst using a mobile phone, and has not resulted in injury to any person or damage to any property (including vehicles). Where an applicant has 9 or more points on their DVLA licence for minor traffic or similar offences the applicant will be required to undertake driver assessment training as approved by the Council. Where an applicant has or reaches 12 points on their DVLA licence for minor traffic or similar offences a licence will not be granted until the applicant/licence holder is conviction free for at least one year and at least 3 months after the end of any driving ban imposed by the courts and after passing an approved driver assessment".