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**SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2021**

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**Present:** Councillors McEwing, G Galton, B Harris, Kataria, Laurent, Noon and Renyard

**Apologies:** Councillors Bunday, Spicer and Streets

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

The apologies of Councillors Bunday, Spicer and Streets were noted.

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

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record.

7. **TAXI LICENSING POLICY STATEMENT 2021**

The panel considered the report of the Executive Director – Communities, Culture and Homes which sought approval of consultation documents for a new taxi policy statement.

Southampton City Council Officers Phil Bates, Licensing Manager; Russel Hawkins, Senior Licensing Officer; and Andrew Saunders, Senior Policy, Partnerships and Strategic Planning Officer; were present and with the consent of the Chair addressed the meeting.

The Committee noted that Drivers would be required to complete a basic English and Maths Test, Safeguarding Training, and a Disclosure and Barring Service Check every 6 months. The Committee were also mindful that the Code of Conduct should set out clearly that the provision of Taxi services must be non-political and threats to any officer of the council will not be tolerated.

**RESOLVED** that:

- (i) The draft Statement of Taxi Licensing Policy and appendices have been approved for consultation for a period of three months
- (ii) Authority would be delegated to the Licensing Manager in consultation with Communications to agree appropriate questions to be using in the consultation correspondence.