

Regulatory Panel

Date: Wednesday, 01 December 2021

Time: 14:00

Venue: Cathedral Room

Present: Councillor Mrs Marilyn Bowman, Councillor Keith Meller, Councillor Mrs Linda Mitchell, Councillor Paul Nedved, Councillor David Shepherd, Councillor Peter Sunter, Councillor Raymond Tinnion, Councillor Miss Jeanette Whalen
Councillor John Collier (for Councillor David Morton), Councillor Ruth Alcroft (for Councillor Dr Les Tickner)

Also Present: Assistant Solicitor
Licensing Manager
Regulatory Compliance Officer

RP.26/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor David Morton, Councillor Dr Leslie Tickner, Councillor Miss Lee Sherriff and Councillor Dr Helen Davison.

RP.27/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

RP.28/21 PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was agreed that the items of business in Part A be dealt with in public and the items of business in Part B be dealt with when the public and press were excluded.

RP.29/21 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED - It was noted that Council, at its meeting on 9 November 2021, received and adopted the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2021. The Chair signed the minutes.

**RP.30/21 DRAFT HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY
2022 - 2027**

The Licensing Manager submitted the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2022 - 2027 for approval (GD.84/21).

The Licensing Manager reminded the Panel that they had considered the draft consolidated Policy on 28 April 2021 along with a summary of Department for Transport (DfT) recommendations. The Panel approved the Policy for consultation.

A public ten week consultation period was undertaken from 3 May to 12 July 2021 in line with the DfT guidance. Eighteen responses had been received from licence holders and two responses from Council Officer, a summary of which could be found in appendix two of the report. The report included the Hackney carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy with changes or additions to the agreed Policy highlighted.

A Member raised the matter of tinted windows and CCTV in vehicles as matter which he would liked addressed in the Policy. The Member was reminded that the consultation process on this occasion had closed and any comments would need to be added to the next review.

RESOLVED - That the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2022-2027 be approved.

RP.31/21 PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Public and Press were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph number (as indicated in brackets against the minute) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act.

RP.32/21 APPLICATION FOR A NEW PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE

(Public and Press Paragraph 1)

The Regulatory Compliance Officer submitted a report (GD.88/21) regarding an application for a new Private Hire Driver Licence.

The Applicant was in attendance.

The Assistant Solicitor outlined the procedure the Panel would follow. The Applicant confirmed that he had received, read and understood the Regulatory Compliance Officer's report.

The Regulatory Compliance Officer set out the Applicant's background and detailed the reason why the application had been brought to the Panel.

The Applicant thanked the Panel for allowing him the opportunity to discuss his application. He detailed his current situation, background to the reason he was before the Panel and his desire to become a taxi driver.

The Applicant responded to questions from the Panel.

The Regulatory Compliance Officer drew Members' attention to the legislation which they must take account of and set out the options for the Panel.

RESOLVED - The Panel had carefully considered and read the evidence in report GD.88/21 and listened carefully to the submission and responses from the Applicant.

The Panel noted that the Applicant had recently applied to be come a Private Hire Vehicle driver. The application had been referred to the Panel in line with guidance adopted by the Council.

The Panel decided to authorise officers to grant a Private Hire Drivers Licence to the Applicant once all relevant checks had been completed as the Panel felt that the Applicant was a fit and proper person.

The Meeting ended at: 14:39