

## **GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2021**

#### **Present:**

Councillor Heather Liggett (Chair)

Councillor Pat Antcliff  
Councillor Anthony Hutchinson  
Councillor Stephen Pickering  
Councillor Michael Roe  
Councillor Philip Wright

Councillor Michelle Emmens  
Councillor Pat Kerry  
Councillor Tracy Reader  
Councillor Pam Windley

#### **Also Present:**

M James	Interim Licensing Team Leader
K Shillitto	Solicitor & Deputy Monitoring Officer
M E Derbyshire	Members ICT & Training Officer
A Maher	Senior Governance Officer
D Stanton	Governance Officer
H Cash	Chartered Legal Executive

#### **GLC/12/ 20-21 Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor C D Huckerby.

#### **GLC/13/ 20-21 Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

#### **GLC/14/ 20-21 Minutes of Last Meetings**

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the meetings held on 22 October 2020 and on 3 December 2020 were approved as a true record.

#### **GLC/15/ 20-21 Taxi Policy Updates**

Members were reminded that the Council had adopted a comprehensive Taxi Licensing Policy in 2018. This policy aimed to bring the standards of conduct required for the District's licensed drivers into line with common standards of conduct, which had been agreed collectively by the Derbyshire taxi licensing authorities.

The report to General Licensing Committee explained that in 2020 the Department of Transport had introduced statutory guidance on standards in taxi licensing. The Council, along with other licensing authorities, would be expected to adopt these standards, unless there were compelling local reasons why they

should not do so.

Members learned that following the publication of the statutory guidance, the Council had carried out a review of the existing Taxi Licensing Policy. This review confirmed that although most of its requirements were already covered by the Policy some minor amendments would be required. The required changes were set out in the Appendix to the report. Members were asked to consider and approve them as the basis for a consultation exercise with the public, taxi trade and other stakeholders.

Committee discussed the report and the proposed minor amendments to the Taxi Licensing Policy. There was a consensus that the Policy which the Council had adopted in 2018 had worked well and had incorporated best practice lessons from elsewhere. Members felt that the proposed minor changes would be sensible and that they should be now go forward for further consultation.

### RESOLVED

- (1) That General Licensing Committee supported the proposed changes to the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy, as adopted in 2018, as the basis for consultation.
- (2) That a consultation exercise be held on the proposed changes to the Taxi Licensing Policy, with the responses received reported back to the Committee.
- (3) That following further consideration of the proposed changes and the responses received from the consultation exercise, the General Licensing Committee be asked to endorse specific amendments to the Taxi Licensing Policy and recommend them to Council for approval.

**GLC/16/  
20-21**

### Matters of Urgency

The Chair raised specific issues about the way in which Council vehicles were 'badged'. The Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer agreed to investigate these issues and how the concerns could be addressed.