

LICENSING AND REGULATORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 2020

Present:

Councillors Austen (Vice-Chair), Bradford, D Cox (Chair), Hayes, Kerswell, Nutley, Rollason and Russell

Apologies:

Councillors Clarence, Evans and Hocking

Officers in Attendance:

Andrea Furness, Licensing Manager

Beth Tipton, Administrative Assistant

Sarah Selway, Democratic Services Team Leader & Deputy Monitoring Officer

Marie Downey, Legal Advisor

9. APOLOGIES

Apologies given from Councillors Clarence, Evans and Hocking.

10. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 17th September were unanimously agreed as a correct record and would be signed by the Chair at a later date.

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

12. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 - EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

13. LICENSING ACT 2003 - REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

The Licensing Manager presented the report to recommend the Statement of Licensing Policy, as amended, to Council for approval. The Licensing Manager went through the report and clarified that the date of the 23 November 2020 was when the policy would be adopted if voted for by Full Council.

Members thanked the Officers for their work on the report and the consultation and remarked that it was a very thorough piece of work and that a lot of effort had gone into it.

Councillor Rollason proposed that the Statement of Licensing Policy be recommended to Full Council for approval. This was seconded by Councillor Hayes.

Members voted.

RECOMMENDED

Unanimously agreed that the Statement of Licensing Policy as set out in the agenda report, be referred to Full Council on the 23 November 2020 for approval.

14. REQUEST FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE EXTENSION - FP10 KHW

Consideration was given to an application for a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence Extension for a Ford S-Max vehicle registration FP10 KHW. The vehicle will be over 10 years old being registered in May 2010.

The Licensing Officer referred to the agenda report and the committee considered photos of the vehicle. It was noted that the vehicle had passed its MOT on 27 October 2020 and it had passed the recent taxi inspection test.

The Applicant provided a written statement in support of the application.

All vehicle licences are issued annually and Section 43 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 provides that a hackney carriage vehicle licence may only be in force for a maximum period of one year.

The Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy provides that vehicles being presented for subsequent licensing are required to be under ten years old. The Council has the discretion to continue to licence vehicles which are older than ten years provided that the Council is satisfied that such a vehicle is in a good condition and good state of repair, and provided that it passes the appropriate testing standard.

The above Policy and statutory provisions reflect the Council's responsibility to ensure that all hackney carriage and private hire vehicles are safe and fit for use.

RESOLVED - The vehicle registration FP10 KHW, Ford S-Max, be approved for a 12 month Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence Extension, in accordance with legislation subject to four monthly taxi inspection tests. The committee felt this was needed due to the advisories listed in the MOT and wanting to ensure that these would not impact on public safety in the future.

Reason for Decision

Having inspected the vehicle, read all written material, and listened to the representation by the Applicant and the Licensing Manager, the Licensing and Regulatory Committee was satisfied with the general standard of the vehicle, the state of repair, and the condition of the vehicle. Therefore it was considered the vehicle was fit for use for the general public and paying customers.

CLLR D COX
Chairman