

Taxi & General Licensing Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Taxi & General Licensing Committee held in The Jeffrey Room at The Guildhall, Northampton, NN1 1DE on Thursday 15 December 2022 at 6.00 pm.

Present	Councillor Andrew Kilbride (Chair) Councillor Mike Warren (Vice-Chair) Councillor Alan Chantler Councillor Cheryl Hawes Councillor Keith Holland-Delamere Councillor Mark Hughes Councillor Brian Sargeant
Apologies for Absence:	Councillor Sally Beardsworth Councillor Imran Ahmed Chowdhury BEM Councillor Maggie Clubley Councillor Gareth Eales Councillor Terry Gilford Councillor Winston Strachan
Officers	Louise Faulkner, Environmental Health and Licensing Manager Nicholas Sutcliffe, Licensing and Business Support Manager James Chadwick, Senior Licensing and Litigation Solicitor Richard Woods, Democratic Services Officer

6. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

7. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 11 July 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

8. Chair's Announcements

The Chair advised that a further meeting of the Taxi & General Licensing Committee would be convened on Tuesday 24 January 2023 in order to consider the delegation of additional powers from the committee to officers, and to consider the draft Street Trading policy.

9. **Draft Private Hire Vehicle and Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy 2022**

The Committee considered a report from the Assistant Director – Regulatory Services which sought approval of the draft West Northamptonshire Council Private Hire Vehicle and Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy prior to public and stakeholder consultation.

In introducing the report, the Licensing and Environmental Support Service Manager explained that the new draft Policy was intended to replace the current and still in force Northampton Borough, Daventry District and South Northamptonshire District Council policies and includes a number of updates and improvements with a clear policy statement.

In response to questions from the Committee regarding how the policy would be applied, the Licensing and Environmental Support Services Manager explained that the policy would apply retrospectively to all current licence holders and all new applicants, with the intention of increasing standards and therefore public safety.

Resolved

- (1) That the draft West Northamptonshire Council Private Vehicle Hire and Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy be approved for consultation with the public and stakeholders.
- (2) That authority be delegated to the Assistant Director – Regulatory Services to consider any responses and, if necessary, amend the draft policy in consultation with the Chair of the Taxi & General Licensing Committee.
- (3) That authority be further delegated to the Assistant Director – Regulatory Services to make minor amendments to the policy once made, if required.

10. **Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting closed at 6.09 pm

Chair: _____

Date: _____