

LICENSING, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 23 November 2016

Present: Councillor WJ Davies (Chair)

Councillors	RL Abbey T Johnson A Hodson P Stuart	G Watt I Lewis D Mitchell
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Apologies: Councillors D Roberts

13 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Committee were asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non pecuniary interests in connection with any application on the agenda and state the nature of the interest.

No such declarations were made.

14 MINUTES

Resolved –

- (1) That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2016 be approved subject to the following amendment:

The resolution in minute 10 be amended to read:

“That an independent company be appointed to carry out a survey to determine the level of demand for Hackney Carriage Vehicles in Wirral and that the weighting attached to the procurement of the survey be 60% for the quality criteria and 40% for the price criteria.”

- (2) That the minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2016 be approved.

15 REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

The Managing Director for Delivery requested Members' consideration in respect of whether to amend the current Hackney Carriage fare tariffs which would be subject to any objections being received as part of the consultation process.

The Licensing Manager reported that the last increase of hackney carriage fares had been in December 2012 and that a proposal had been submitted by the Unite Hackney Carriage trade representatives to reduce the initial hiring distance by 300 yards on the standard day rate tariff, with all other tariffs, distances and charges to remain unchanged. The overall impact of this would be to add 20 pence to the overall cost of the fare.

Members were provided with a table appended to the report which compared the current and proposed rates and also a table showing the effect of the proposed increases.

The Licensing Manager advised Members that should the amendments to the tariffs be approved, the proposal must be advertised for a period of fourteen days and that if no objections were received, the revised tariff would become effective on 15 December 2016, however, should any objections be received, they would be reported back to this Committee for consideration.

A number of proposals in respect of an increase in hackney carriage fares had previously been considered by this Committee on 25 November 2015, however, further to a petition being received from Hackney Carriage Drivers objecting to the increase Members had resolved not to amend the tariffs.

Mr D Cummins and Mr G Gregory, Unite the Union, addressed the Committee and advised Members that this would be the first increase in five years and that they believed this was a reasonable proposal in that it would be a minimum increase of 20 pence.

The Licensing Manager confirmed that the closing date for representations to be received would be 14 December 2016 and that should no representations be received the increase would take effect from 15 December 2016.

Resolved – That an increase in Hackney Carriage Tariffs be approved subject to any objections being received as part of the consultation process.

16 **MONKS' FERRY SLIPWAY BIRKENHEAD**

This matter was deferred prior to the hearing.
