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LICENSING, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 12 December 2012

Present: Councillor WJ Davies (Chair)

Councillors P Glasman L Fraser
S Niblock P Williams
I Williams

Deputies: Councillors A Leech
A Sykes
S Williams

26 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.

27 MINUTES

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 November be approved.

28 HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE - CHANGE OF VEHICLE

The Acting Director of Law, HR and Asset Management, reported upon a draft consultation document that will be circulated in order to seek views from Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicle licence holders and members of the public in respect of the adoption of a policy relating to circumstances when a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor wishes to change their vehicle.

The Licensing Manager reported that consultation will take place over a three month period and the result of the consultation will be reported to a future meeting of this Committee, she welcomed comments and suggestions of the draft document from the Committee.

It was suggested that consultation should be as wide as possible and that a press release would be valuable. The Licensing Manager advised that she would liaise with the Press Department in order to facilitate this.

Mr D Cummins of Unite, addressed the Committee and raised some general concerns about licensing of Hackney Carriage Vehicles.

It was moved by Councillor S Niblock and seconded by Councillor S Williams that

“Members approve a draft consultation document to be circulated in order to seek views from Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicle licence holders and members of the public in respect of the adoption of a policy relating to circumstances when a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor wishes to change their vehicle.”

Resolved (9:0) - That Members approve a draft consultation document to be circulated in order to seek views from Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicle licence holders and members of the public in respect of the adoption of a policy relating to circumstances when a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietor wishes to change their vehicle

29 PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE AGE POLICY

The Acting Director of Law, HR and Asset Management, reported upon a draft consultation document to be approved for circulation in order to seek views from Private Hire and Hackney Carriage licence holders and members of the public in respect of the adoption of a policy relating to circumstances when a Private Hire Vehicle Proprietor wishes to change their vehicle.

The Licensing Manager reported that consultation will take place over a three month period and the result will be reported to a future meeting of this Committee, she welcomed comments and suggestions of the draft document from the Committee. Members were informed that suggestions from consultation will be subject of a press release.

Members suggested that the consultation be amended to include an option to ‘reduce the current age policy of eight years’, responders would then be asked to specify what age policy should be applied and at what age six monthly testing should take place.

Members suggested that the background information should be contained within the consultation document and adapted to include reference to the Department for Transport Best Practice Guide and any cost implications for taxi drivers with regards to costings for six monthly testing.

On a motion by Councillor S Niblock and seconded by Councillor P Glasman it was proposed that

“Members approve a draft consultation document to be amended and circulated in order to seek views from Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicle licence holders and members of the public in respect of the adoption of a policy relating to the licensing of Private Hire Vehicles.”

Resolved (9:0) - That Members approve a draft consultation document to be amended and circulated in order to seek views from Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicle licence holders and members of the public in respect of the adoption of a policy relating the licensing of Private Hire Vehicles.

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