

ITEM 4

Time Commenced: 6.00pm

Time Finished: 6.25pm

LICENSING COMMITTEE

16 July 2015

Present: Councillor Sandhu (Chair)
Councillors Hickson, A Holmes, Jackson, Keith, Skelton, Turner, Whitby, Winter

11/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barker, Froggatt, Hezelgrave, Poulter, Redfern, Tittley.

12/15 Late Items

There were no late items.

13/15 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

14/15 General Licensing Administration and Compliance Activities - Quarter 4 2014/15

A report was presented on behalf of the Acting Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods by Licensing Team Leader, the report provided the Committee with information and statistics on the activities the general licensing service had undertaken during Quarter 4 of the 2014/2015 financial year.

The Committee resolved to note the report.

15/15 Taxi Licensing Administration and Compliance Activities - Quarter 4 2014/15

A report was presented on behalf of the Acting Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods by the Licensing Team Leader, the report provided the Committee with information on the activities and statistics the taxi licensing service had undertaken during Quarter 4 of the 2014/2015 financial year.

The Committee resolved to note the report.

16/15 The Introduction of Three and Five Yearly Licences

The report – The Introduction of Three and Five Yearly Licences was presented to the Committee on behalf of the Acting Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods by the Head of Environmental Health and Licensing. The report outlined the changes to the standard duration of drivers and operator's licenses which were being introduced by the Government which will have an impact on the way in which they are dealt with by the Council.

The report recommended the following:

2.1 To approve the policy changes that impact on the administration of applications, which are required to achieve the introduction and implementation of three and five yearly licences, as set out in Appendix 2.

2.2 To delegate to the Chair of Licensing Committee, in consultation with the Service Director of Environment & Regulatory Services, authority to agree a set of revised fees and charges to be published for consultation.

2.3 To approve the policy change, requiring licensed drivers and prospective drivers who have attained the age of 70 years to only be issued with annual licences.

2.4 To approve the policy changes set out at Appendix 3, detailing other circumstances where it may be appropriate to issue licences for a period less than three years (drivers) or five years (operators), namely:

- a) Two or more suspensions of a vehicle licence within a 12 month rolling period;
- b) Two or more referrals of complaints about a licence holders conduct within a 12 month rolling period;
- c) Any combination of (a) and (b) within a 12 month rolling period;
- d) Failure to undertake training, whether mandatory or penal, within a prescribed period.
- e) Notified medical conditions or other changes in medical conditions.
- f) Significant or cumulative driving and other defined convictions.

The Committee discussed the implications the proposed changes would have on the Licensing Team and the administration of licences. It was noted that the Driver Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) does not stipulate that the drivers who are over 70 years old required to renew their licence every year as stated in the report, the statutory requirement is every 3 years.

The Committee resolved to:

1) Approve the policy changes which were required to achieve the introduction and implementation of three and five yearly licences, as set out in Appendix 2.

- 2) Delegate to the Chair of Licensing Committee, in consultation with the Service Director of Environment & Regulatory Services, authority to agree a set of revised fees and charges to be published for consultation.
- 3) To approve the policy change, requiring licensed drivers and prospective drivers who have attained the age of 70 years to only be issued with annual licences.
- 4) To approve the policy changes set out at Appendix 3, which detailed other circumstances where it may be appropriate to issue licences for a period less than three years (drivers) or five years (operators), namely:
 - a) Two or more suspensions of a vehicle licence within a 12 month rolling period;
 - b) Two or more referrals of complaints about a licence holders conduct within a 12 month rolling period;
 - c) Any combination of (a) and (b) within a 12 month rolling period;
 - d) Failure to undertake training, whether mandatory or penal, within a prescribed period.
 - e) Notified medical conditions or other changes in medical conditions.
 - f) Significant or cumulative driving and other defined convictions.

Minutes End