LICENSING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE

16 January 2014

Attendance:

Councillors:

Mather (Chairman) (P)

Bodtger (P)

Green (P)

Lipscomb (P)

Phillips (P)

Johnston (P)

Laming

Mason (P)

Southgate (P) Newman-McKie (P)

Wright (P) Prowse

1. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 28 November 2013, be approved and adopted.

2. REVIEW OF THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE CONDITIONS FOLLOWING CONSULTATION

(Report LR428 refers)

The Head of Licensing explained that following the previous Committee meeting on the 28 November 2013, the taxi trade had been consulted on the proposed changes to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Conditions. The consultation had taken place from 5 December 2013 to the 3 January 2014. Six comments had been received in opposition to the proposed condition on emissions, detailed in Appendix 2 of the Report. No comments had been received regarding the conditions that related to advertising and the tyre re-inflation device.

A number of Members raised concerns over Condition 7: Emissions and whether this would cause drivers to be sitting in low/freezing temperatures with no heat and whether this would be a risk to the health and safety of the drivers and passengers. Further concerns were raised over how this would be monitored by Officers and the potential problems of enforcement.

The Assistant Director (Neighbourhoods and Environment) reminded Members that the condition was being proposed so to raise awareness about the Air Quality Management Area that existed within Winchester town centre, and the implications of this condition in demonstrating the importance and principles of the Air Quality Plan to the general public.

However, following further debate, Members agreed to amend the wording to the proposed Condition 7 so to address the concerns outlined above.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Revised Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Conditions be approved as contained in Appendix 1 of the Report, subject the amended Condition 7 set out below:

"Within the Air Quality Management Area in the Winchester Town Centre, drivers shall minimise the running of vehicle engines when waiting for a passenger".

2. The Head of Licensing be given delegated authority to amend the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Conditions and implement the changes as soon as reasonably possible.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and concluded at 7.20pm.

Chairman