

LICENSING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE

10 June 2010

Attendance:

Councillors:

Jackson (Chairman) (P)

Baxter (P)

Fall

Hammerton (P)

Izard (P)

Love (P)

Mason (P)

Mather (P)

Pearce

Prowse (P)

Read (P)

Thynne (P)

Wright (P)

Deputy Members:

Councillor Johnston (Standing Deputy for Councillor Pearce)

Others in Attendance who did not address the meeting

Councillor Collin

Officers in Attendance

Mr H Bone (Head of Legal Services)

Mr J Myall (Licensing and Registration Manager)

Miss C Stefanczuk (Assistant Licensing and Registration Officer)

Mrs C Tetstall (Property and Licensing Solicitor)

1. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Hammerton be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the 2010/11 Municipal Year.

2. **TIME OF MEETINGS**

RESOLVED:

That future meetings of the Committee commence at 6.30pm for the 2010/11 Municipal Year.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee, held on 6 October 2010, be approved and adopted.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr Parker spoke in relation to Report LR320, and his comments are summarised below.

5. **MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 9 OCTOBER 2009**
[\(Report LR322 refers\)](#)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 9 October 2009 be received and noted (attached as Appendix A to the minutes).

6. **MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 10 NOVEMBER 2009**
(LESS EXEMPT APPENDIX)
[\(Report LR323 refers\)](#)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 10 November 2009 be received and noted (attached as Appendix B to the minutes).

7. **MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 14 DECEMBER 2009**
(LESS EXEMPT APPENDIX)
[\(Report LR324 refers\)](#)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 14 December 2009 (less exempt appendix) be received and noted (attached as Appendix C to the minutes).

8. **MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 4 JANUARY 2010**
[\(Report LR325 refers\)](#)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 4 January 2010 be received and noted (attached as Appendix D to the minutes).

9. **MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 20 JANUARY 2010
(LESS EXEMPT APPENDIX)**
[\(Report LR326 refers\)](#)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 20 January 2010 be received and noted (attached as Appendix E to the minutes).

10. **MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 11 MARCH 2010**
[\(Report LR327 refers\)](#)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 11 March 2010 be received and noted (attached as Appendix F to the minutes).

11. **MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 30 APRIL 2010**
[\(Report LR328 refers\)](#)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 30 April 2010 be received and noted (attached as Appendix G to the minutes).

12. **LICENSING FEES AND CHARGES - TAXIS AND PRIVATE HIRE
LICENCES**
[\(Report LR320 refers\)](#)

Mr Parker, who spoke in public participation on this issue, raised a number of concerns as a private hire operator. In summary, he agreed that the taxpayer should not be expected to contribute towards the Council's taxi and private hire function. However, he questioned whether the cost of this service, which he estimated at approximately £100,000, was "reasonable administration costs".

Following debate, the Committee agreed that it should be supplied with further information on the Council's costs to operate this function, when it next considered taxis and private hire licence fees. The Committee also agreed with the principle that the cost of the licences should be kept as low as possible, whilst covering the cost of the service.

The Committee also discussed possible options for licences, one of which was to extend the operators' and drivers' licences from one to three year terms, which was supported by Mr Parker. The Committee noted that this proposed change could have a number of advantages and disadvantages, such as making renewals easier for drivers (especially those based some distance away from the City Offices) and reducing the administration costs of the renewal itself. However, these had to be balanced against the lost

opportunity for the Licensing staff to annually meet drivers face to face. Therefore, the Committee agreed that this option should be considered in greater detail as part of the next review of taxi and private hire licence fees.

RESOLVED:

That for the next Review of Taxi and Private Hire Licence fees, a report be prepared giving greater detail on the Council's costs of administering this function, and considering possible options for longer licence periods.

13. **REVIEW OF LICENSING POLICY 2011**
[\(Report LR321 refers\)](#)

The Committee noted that the Licensing Policy would be published on the Council's website from 17 June 2010, as part of a consultation period due to end on 24 September 2010, and that the next meeting of this Committee would then consider any representations received. The Head of Legal Services also explained that, under the terms of the Council's Constitution, the Policy could only be adopted by full Council.

During discussion, the Committee noted but raised no issue with the main changes to the Policy, as set out in paragraph 4 of the Report.

Following a Member's comment, it was agreed to correct the reference regarding the Upper High Street at paragraph 4.8 of the Policy.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Licensing Policy (set out in Appendix 2 of Report LR321) be approved for publication as a consultation draft.
2. That the consultation process for the draft Licensing Policy set out in Section 3 of Report LR321 be agreed.

RECOMMENDED:

THAT IN THE EVENT OF NO REPRESENTATIONS BEING RECEIVED, THE DRAFT LICENSING POLICY BE ADOPTED AS THE COUNCIL'S AGREED LICENSING POLICY UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003, FROM 7 JANUARY 2011

14. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

RESOLVED:

1. That in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

2. That the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business because it is likely that, if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of 'exempt information' as defined by Section 100I and Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

<u>Minute Number</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Description of Exempt Information</u>
##	Exempt minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 10 November 2009) Information relating to any individual. (Para 1 Schedule 12A refers))) Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual (Para 2 Schedule 12A refers))) Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime (Para 7 Schedule 12A refers)
##	Exempt minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 14 December 2009) Information relating to any individual. (Para 1 Schedule 12A refers)
##	Exempt minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 20 January 2010) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). (Para 3 Schedule 12A refers)

15. **EXEMPT MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 10 NOVEMBER 2009**
(Report LR323 refers)

RESOLVED:

That the exempt minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 10 November 2009 be received and noted (attached as Appendix # to the minutes).

16. **EXEMPT MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 14 DECEMBER 2009**
(Report LR324 refers)

RESOLVED:

That the exempt minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 14 December 2009 be received and noted (attached as Appendix # to the minutes).

17. **EXEMPT MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 20 JANUARY 2010**
(Report LR326 refers)

RESOLVED:

That the exempt minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee held 20 January 2010 be received and noted (attached as Appendix # to the minutes).

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and concluded at 7.45pm

Chairman