Licensing and Appeals Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2015

Present:

Councillor Longsden in the Chair Councillors Austin, Barrett, Evans, Grimshaw, Hughes, S. Judge, Loughman, Ludford, Monaghan, Royle and Stone

Apologies:

Councillors Paul and Teubler.

LAP/15/11 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 23 March 2015 were submitted for consideration as a correct record.

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2015.

LAP/15/12 Introduction of a Licensing Protocol for Members and Officers.

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Planning, Building Control and Licensing regarding the introduction of a proposed protocol for members and officers to enable the relevant parts of the Code of Conduct for Members and the Employee Code of Conduct to be integrated into one document, which would cover matters such as declaration of interests, predetermination, lobbying and complaints/record keeping to support the licensing authority in its decision making process.

Decision

- 1. To note the report.
- 2. To agree the introduction of the protocol with immediate effect.

LAP/15/13 Hackney Carriage Fare Review for July 2015 – July 2016

A report of the Head of Planning, Building Control and Licensing was submitted which requested the Committee to consider the content of the report which is to be presented to the Executive, and to consider the key issues and make recommendations to the Executive.

The Committee discussed in detail whether barrier charges at Piccadilly Station and Manchester Airport should be absorbed by Hackney Carriage Drivers, or applied to the fare card.

After examination of the report and the issues that it raised, the Committee agreed to make recommendations to the Executive.

Decision

To make the following recommendations to the Executive in relation to the review of Hackney Carriage fares.

- 1. No change should be applied to the current hackney carriage fare in respect of year 2015/16.
- 2. The full £1.60 airport barrier charge should be applied to the fare card.
- 3. The full 40p barrier charge for Piccadilly station should be applied to the fare card.
- 4. The additional 20p luggage charge is not re-applied to the fare card.
- 5. That the fuel surcharge is not re-applied to the fare card, and that a mechanism is put in place that would allow any future surcharge to be applied to the fare card expeditiously.
 - 5a. The mechanism to allow any future fuel surcharge to be presented to the Licensing and Appeals Committee before it is implemented.
- 6. To request that officers provide the Licensing and Appeals Committee with a report regarding a comparison with other areas in relation to Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle policies, insurance costs, vehicle age limits, testing regimes and licence fees with regard to protecting the travelling public.

LAP/15/14 Exclusion of the public

A recommendation was made that the public be excluded during consideration of the following items of business.

Decision

To exclude the public during consideration of the following items which involved consideration of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons, and public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

LAP/15/15 Hackney Carriage/Private Hire driver licences issued under delegated authority between January – March 2015.

A report was submitted which informed the Committee of the decisions made under delegated authority in relation to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver licenses.

Decision

To note the report.