

Licensing and Appeals Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2017

Present

Councillor Ludford (in the Chair)
Councillors Barrett, Connolly, Cookson, Evans, Grimshaw, Hughes, S. Judge, Madeleine Monaghan, Paul and Stone.

Apologies

Councillors Hassan, Longsdon and Loughman.

LAP/17/1 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 5 December 2016 were submitted for consideration as a correct record.

Decision

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2016.

LAP/17/2 Taxi Compliance Update Report

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Planning, Building Control and Licensing. The report informed the Committee of the work undertaken by the Licensing Unit's Taxi Compliance Team for the following reporting period:

- June – September 2016 (Qtr. 2 and 3 2016/17)

Following the Compliance Update report presented to Committee on 24 October 2016, information from the Licensing and Appeals Sub-Committee and Senior Officer Panel was included within this report.

The Committee were told that reporting on outcome data from complaints investigations will be incorporated into future reports as this will become available by virtue of the new software (UNiform) system which went live in December 2016. The compliance case management module is currently scheduled for February 2017, and therefore data will begin to be recorded at this time. A full quarter of data will be available for Qtr. 1 of 2017/18.

This has been an intense period in the team with the introduction of the new system and the corresponding changes in processes. Around the same time the Unit implemented the new higher level of identity checks in conformation with the new requirements of the Immigration Act 2016. Whilst a demanding time the team has responded positively to ensure the business continues to process licence applications effectively and in accordance with all regulations. This has though led to a slight delay in implementing the compliance modules within UNiform and enabling improved reporting.

The Committee also received an update on the progress of seconding an officer to the Team from GMP. Due to staff changes within GMP, the arrangement has been delayed to ensure those moving into new roles have the opportunity to properly immerse themselves in the process. Officers that had previously expressed an interest in the role have also withdrawn from the process so the role has been re-advertised within GMP Special Operations Division with a closing date of 13th January 2017.

Decision

To note the report.