

Agenda

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General Purposes Licensing Committee

Date: **Wednesday 22 February 2012**

Time: **5.00 pm**

Place: **Oxford Town Hall**

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General Purposes Licensing Committee

Membership

Chair	Councillor Clark Brundin	North;
Vice-Chair	Councillor Colin Cook	Jericho and Osney;
	Councillor Jim Campbell	St. Margaret's;
	Councillor Mary Clarkson	Marston;
	Councillor Van Coulter	Barton and Sandhills;
	Councillor John Goddard	Wolvercote;
	Councillor Michael Gotch	Wolvercote;
	Councillor Bryan Keen	Cowley;
	Councillor Gwynneth Royce	St. Margaret's;
	Councillor David Williams	Iffley Fields;

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AGENDA

Pages

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

The Quorum for this meeting is 4.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors serving on the Committee are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in any of the following agenda items.

3 UPDATE ON TAXI LICENSING ACTIVITY BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 2011 AND DECEMBER 2011

1 - 14

The Head of Environmental Development has submitted a report which informs the Committee of the progress made by the Taxi Licensing Function between September 2011 and December 2011.

The Committee is asked to

- (a) Note the contents of the report;
- (b) Make comments and recommendations regarding the future work of the Taxi Licensing Function.

4 LICENCE FEES 2012/13

15 - 24

The Head of Environmental Development has submitted a report which seeks agreement of the licence fees for 2012/13 where the Council has discretion over the level of fee charged.

The Committee is asked:

- (a) To note the licence fees set by statute;
- (b) To request the Head of Environmental Development to consult on the proposed fees, as set out in paragraph 19, for new Street Trading Consents that are required as a consequence of the extension the scheme;
- (c) To agree the other licence fees for 2012/13 as set out in Appendix One to the report;
- (d) To receive a further report reviewing the Street Trading Policy to incorporate the extension of the scheme to the whole of the Oxford City Council area.

5 AUDIO AND VISUAL RECORDING EQUIPMENT IN LICENSED

25 - 28

VEHICLES - PROVISION TO EXEMPT "CHAUFFEUR" VEHICLES

The Head of Environmental Development has submitted a report which asks the Committee to determine whether to amend the provisions for Audio and Visual Recording Equipment to be fitted to "Chauffeur" style Private Hire vehicles.

The Committee is asked to determine whether to exempt from the requirement for audio and visual recording equipment to be fitted, Private Hire Vehicles that hold an Exemption Notice.

6 AMENDMENTS TO THE POLICY ON THE RELEVANCE OF WARNINGS, OFFENCES, CAUTIONS AND CONVICTIONS

29 - 46

The Head of Environmental Development has submitted a report which seeks approval from the Committee to the additions and amendments to the Policy on the Relevance of Warnings, Offences, Cautions and Convictions related to the licensing and enforcement of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers and Operators.

The Committee is asked to

- (a) Agree to the additions and amendments to the Policy on the Relevance of Warnings, Offences, Cautions and Convictions;
- (b) Delegate authority to the Head of Environmental Development to make the necessary textual changes to the Policy on the Relevance of Warnings, Offences, Cautions, and Convictions put forward in this Report.

7 AMENDMENTS TO TAXI LICENSING REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES

47 - 148

The Head of Environmental Development has submitted a report which seeks approval from the Committee to the additions and amendments to the current Taxi Licensing regulations, guidelines, criteria to the licensing of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles, Drivers and Operators.

The Committee is asked to:

- (a) Agree to the additions and amendments to the regulations, guidelines, and criteria relating to the licensing of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles, Drivers and Operators as set out in Appendices 1 to 3;
- (b) Delegate authority to the Head of Environmental Development to make the necessary textual changes to the Regulations and Guidelines put forward in this Report.

8 REQUEST FROM A PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR TO AMEND THE CURRENT CONDITION TO THE PERMITTED COLOUR OF PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES THAT SEAT 5 OR MORE PASSENGERS OR OF A NON-SALOON TYPE VEHICLE

149 - 154

The Head of Environmental Development has submitted a report which seeks the views of Committee in response to a request to amend the current Taxi Licensing regulations, guidelines and criteria relating to the licensing of Private Hire Vehicles that seat 5 or more passengers or of a non-saloon type vehicle.

The Committee is asked to

- (a) Determine whether or not to authorise amendment of the regulations, guidelines, and criteria relating to the licensing of Private Hire Vehicles that seat 5 or more passengers, to permit black coloured vehicles; and if having chosen to authorise such an amendment.
- (b) Delegate authority to the Head of Environmental Development to make the necessary textual changes to the current regulations, guidelines and criteria.

9 MINUTES

155 - 158

Minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2011.

10 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

DECLARING INTERESTS

What is a personal interest?

You have a personal interest in a matter if that matter affects the well-being or financial position of you, your relatives or people with whom you have a close personal association more than it would affect the majority of other people in the ward(s) to which the matter relates.

A personal interest can affect you, your relatives or people with whom you have a close personal association positively or negatively. If you or they would stand to lose by the decision, you should also declare it.

You also have a personal interest in a matter if it relates to any interests, which you must register.

What do I need to do if I have a personal interest?

You must declare it when you get to the item on the agenda headed "Declarations of Interest" or as soon as it becomes apparent to you. You may still speak and vote unless it is a prejudicial interest.

If a matter affects a body to which you have been appointed by the authority, or a body exercising functions of a public nature, you only need declare the interest if you are going to speak on the matter.

What is a prejudicial interest?

You have a prejudicial interest in a matter if;

- a) a member of the public, who knows the relevant facts, would reasonably think your personal interest is so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgment of the public interest; and
- b) the matter affects your financial interests or relates to a licensing or regulatory matter; and
- c) the interest does not fall within one of the exempt categories at paragraph 10(2)(c) of the Code of Conduct.

What do I need to do if I have a prejudicial interest?

If you have a prejudicial interest you must withdraw from the meeting. However, under paragraph 12(2) of the Code of Conduct, if members of the public are allowed to make representations, give evidence or answer questions about that matter, you may also make representations as if you were a member of the public. However, you must withdraw from the meeting once you have made your representations and before any debate starts.

