

Agenda

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General Purposes Licensing Committee

Date: **Monday 14 September 2015**

Time: **6.15 pm**

Place: **St Aldate's Room, Town Hall**

For any further information please contact:

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As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record the meeting please let the Contact Officer know how you wish to do this before the start of the meeting.

General Purposes Licensing Committee

Membership

Chair	Councillor Mary Clarkson
Vice-Chair	Councillor Colin Cook
	Councillor Van Coulter
	Councillor Andrew Gant
	Councillor Rae Humberstone
	Councillor Pat Kennedy
	Councillor Ben Lloyd-Shogbesan
	Councillor Mark Lygo
	Councillor Gwynneth Royce
	Councillor Dick Wolff

The quorum for this Committee is 4 Members, no substitutes are permitted.

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AGENDA

Pages

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

3 **HACKNEY CARRIAGE & PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES: PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE CRITERIA APPLICABLE TO HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES LICENSED BY THE AUTHORITY.**

7 - 52

The Head of Community Services has submitted a report which details proposals for the implementation of a variety of criteria applicable to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles in the City in order to promote reductions in pollutants and to reduce the number of vehicles licensed by other Authorities from working within the City.

Officer Recommendations: That the General Purposes Licensing Committee resolves to:

1. Recommend Council to resolve to:
 - a) approve the proposed amendments to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle "Conditions of Fitness" as detailed within this report;
 - b) revise the Vehicle Age Limits criteria due to come into force on 1 January 2016;
 - c) approve the proposal to offer a discounted licence fee to be applicable to vehicles that fall with Vehicle Excise Bands A, B and C (deemed to be low emission vehicles).

4 **HCPH VEHICLES - LICENSING AUTHORITY FUNDING OF ANNUAL TAXI-METER RECALIBRATION AND SEALING FOLLOWING VARIATIONS OF TARIFFS**

53 - 64

The Head of Community Services has submitted a report which details the Council practice of the Taxi Licensing function paying for the costs incurred for the Recalibration and Sealing of Taxi-meters fitted to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles following Variations of Tariffs.

Officer Recommendations: That the General Purposes Licensing Committee resolves to:

1. determine what action, if any, should be taken in relation to the Authority funding the recalibration and sealing of taximeters.

5 **DEREGULATION ACT 2015**

65 - 72

The Head of Community Services has submitted a report which details the Deregulation Act 2015 and its impact on the Taxi Licensing function.

Officer Recommendations: That the General Purposes Licensing Committee resolves to:

1. note the contents of the report; and

2. endorse the movement to a presumption in favour of a 3 year driver licence as required by the Deregulation Act 2015 and the steps being taken in that context to ensure that the council has adequate up to date information to inform the licensing process.

6 UPDATE ON TAXI LICENSING ACTIVITY: APRIL - AUGUST 2015

73 - 80

The Head of Community Services has submitted a report which details the progress made by the Taxi Licensing Function during the current Council year (April – August 2015).

Officer Recommendations: That the General Purposes Licensing Committee resolves to:

1. note the contents of the report; and
2. make any comments and recommendations regarding the future work of the Taxi Licensing Function.

7 MINUTES

81 - 82

Minutes from 19 May 2015

Recommendation: That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2015 be APPROVED as a true and accurate record.

8 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Meetings are scheduled as followed:

26 January 2016
19 May 2016

All meetings will begin at 6.15 pm.

DECLARING INTERESTS

General duty

You must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests when the meeting reaches the item on the agenda headed "Declarations of Interest" or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.

What is a disclosable pecuniary interest?

Disclosable pecuniary interests relate to your employment; sponsorship (ie payment for expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a councillor or towards your election expenses); contracts; land in the Council's area; licences for land in the Council's area; corporate tenancies; and securities. These declarations must be recorded in each councillor's Register of Interests which is publicly available on the Council's website.

Declaring an interest

Where any matter disclosed in your Register of Interests is being considered at a meeting, you must declare that you have an interest. You should also disclose the nature as well as the existence of the interest.

If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest, after having declared it at the meeting you must not participate in discussion or voting on the item and must withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is discussed.

Members' Code of Conduct and public perception

Even if you do not have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter, the Members' Code of Conduct says that a member "must serve only the public interest and must never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person including yourself" and that "you must not place yourself in situations where your honesty and integrity may be questioned". What this means is that the matter of interests must be viewed within the context of the Code as a whole and regard should continue to be paid to the perception of the public.

¹ Disclosable pecuniary interests that must be declared are not only those of the member her or himself but also those of the member's spouse, civil partner or person they are living with as husband or wife or as if they were civil partners.