

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Licensing Committee on Thursday 18 May 2023



Committee members present:

Councillor Mundy (Chair)	Councillor Coyne
Councillor Lygo	Councillor Miles
Councillor Muddiman	Councillor Rawle
Councillor Sandelson	Councillor Upton
Councillor Waite	Councillor Hunt

Officers present for all or part of the meeting:

Tazafar Asghar, Legal Advisor
Joshua Curnow, Supervising Senior Licensing Officer
Celeste Reyeslao, Committee and Member Services Officer

Apologies:

Councillor(s) Clarkson, Gant, Humberstone, Pressel and Walcott sent apologies.

1. Appointment of Chair for the Council Year 2023-24

Cllr Mundy was elected Chair for the Council year 2023-24.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chair for the Council Year 2023-24

Cllr Clarkson was elected Vice-Chair for the Council year 2023-24.

3. Declarations of interest

None.

4. Appointment of Sub-Committees

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Law and Governance setting out the establishment of four sub-committees for the 2023-24 Council Year to deal with the casework flowing from the Committee's own responsibilities.

The General Purposes Licensing Committees resolved to:

- **Agree** that the casework hearings for taxi, private hire or other driver or vehicle licences, street trading licences and sex establishment licences should be determined by sub-committees on the basis of the Powers and Duties of GPL Sub-Committees at Appendix A.

- **Establish** four politically-balanced sub-committees of three members, each to undertake the casework for the General Purposes Licensing Committee as set out at Appendix A.
- **Agree** the membership of the four sub-committees as:
 - Sub-Committee A: Cllr Mundy, Cllr Lygo, Cllr Sandelson
 - Sub-Committee B: Cllr Clarkson, Cllr Coyne, Cllr Miles
 - Sub-Committee C: Cllr Mundy, Cllr Waite, Cllr Miles
 - Sub-Committee D: Cllr Clarkson, Cllr Hunt, and Cllr Gant
- **Agree** that substitution is permitted on each of the four sub-committees but that substitutes must be from the General Purposes Licensing Committee and must maintain political proportionality.
- **Agree** the meeting dates and time for sub-committees as set out in the report.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Committee agreed to **approve** the minutes of the meeting held on 06 February 2023 as a true and accurate record.

6. Dates and times of meetings

The Committee noted the dates and times of future meetings.

7. Any other business

Cllr Miles raised a question on *bike taxis*.

In response to questions, the Supervising Senior Licensing Officer explained that similar queries had been raised in the past but fell outside the remit of the Authority due to bicycles being unable to meet the criteria of a 'vehicle' under the licensing legislation, particularly in regard to safety requirements. He advised that licensing bicycles through the current regime would require substantial work and changes to the policy, however initial proposals that would explore how other authorities allowed similar schemes could be a considerable first steps.

The Committee requested that Licensing Officers explored ways that would enable the Authority to licence bicycles as a method of public transportation within the city to be brought before the Committee for discussions at a future meeting.

The meeting started at 6.15 pm and ended at 6.30 pm

Chair

Date: Monday 25 September 2023

When decisions take effect:

Cabinet: after the call-in and review period has expired

Planning Committees: after the call-in and review period has expired and the formal decision notice is issued

All other committees: immediately.

Details are in the Council's Constitution.