

LICENSING COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 6 JULY 2017

PRESENT:- Councillors Abdul Amin, Alan Bishop, Steph Exell, Nick Martin, Derique Montaut, Carol Shelley, Caryl Sydney-Smith, Vera Tomlinson, Nadine Watts, Peter Watts, Wayne Crabbe, Colin Lovell and Eric Shaw.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Paul Dixon and Emma Faramarzi.

12. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting. No declarations were made.

13. Public Question Time

No public questions were received during the meeting.

14. Consultation for Registration and Code of Conduct for Commercial Dog Walkers

The Council's Licensing Manager submitted a report seeking the Committee's approval to go to public consultation on a draft Code of Conduct for Commercial Dog Walkers.

Resolved – That the draft Code of Conduct for Commercial Dog Walkers be approved for public consultation and the results of the consultation exercise be submitted to this Committee for consideration.

15. Consideration to Review Hackney Carriage Upper-Age Limits

The Committee considered (a) a report of the Council's Licensing Manager setting out a request from the proprietor of Swindon Black Cabs to remove the upper age limit on purpose built wheelchair accessible Hackney Carriage vehicles, (b) letters and emails received from (i) Swindon Black Cabs, (ii) Mr Lucas (Taxi Driver), (iii) Mr Bates (Taxi Driver) and (iv) Mr Stocker (Taxi Driver) in respect of the request, and (c) oral submissions received from Mr Bates at the meeting.

Resolved – (1) That the request from the proprietor of Swindon Black Cabs to remove the upper age limit on purpose built wheelchair accessible Hackney Carriage vehicles be refused.

(2) That approval be given to increasing MOT inspections for Hackney Carriage vehicles aged between 12 and 15 years to three per annum in order to ensure the mechanical fitness of vehicles are maintained.

(3) That the Council's Licensing Manager continue to be granted delegated authority to refuse to licence wheel chair accessible Hackney Carriage vehicles after inspection if in the opinion of the Licensing Manager the vehicle has not be properly maintained in accordance with the Council's approved guidelines.

16. Review of the Policy Relating to the Licensing of Vehicles with Tinted Windows

This item was withdrawn with the agreement of the Committee.

17. Review of Street Trading

This item was withdrawn with the agreement of the Committee.