

Swindon Borough Council

Licensing Committee

Thursday, 17 September 2020

In Public Virtual Meeting - LiveStream

At 5.30 p.m.

Conservative Councillors

Alan Bishop
Steve Heyes
Vinay Manro (Vice-
Chair)
Nick Martin
Bazil Solomon
Caryl Sydney-Smith
Rahul Tarar
Vera Tomlinson
(Chair)

Labour Councillors

Abdul Amin
John Ballman
Steph Exell
Imtiyaz Shaikh
Nadine Watts
Robert Wright

Liberal Democrat Councillors

Stan Pajak

Committee Officer: Shaun Banks (Telephone: 07980 752047)

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(Telephone 01793 445500)

AGENDA

NOTE:

The link for the public meeting is here:

[Public Link - Licensing Committee](#)

This link will only work from 5:30 p.m. on 17th September 2020. For help on viewing the meeting, please visit: [Teams Support](#).

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Public Question Time

See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

4. Minutes (Pages 3 - 4)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 16th December 2019.

5. **Consideration of responses of a 12 week consultation to review licensing policy in regard to allowing private hire licence holders to work for more than one operator at a time**
(Report to follow)
6. **Consideration of responses of a an 8 week consultation to review licensing policy in regard to emissions standards for licensed vehicles, and to lower the age at which vehicles are first licensed**
(Report to follow)
7. **Review the introduction of mandatory CCTV in Private Hire and Hackney Carriage vehicles after the publication of formal government Department for Transport (DFT) Guidance**
(Report to follow)

Date of Despatch: 09 September 2020

Public Question Time - Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council remains committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters, and matters relating to planning and licensing applications). During Covid-19, you must submit your question to CommitteeServices@swindon.gov.uk with your contact details 48 hours before the meeting so the committee officer can send you details about how to participate. The deadline is 16:00 on Tuesday 15th September 2020 Questions must be relevant, clear, and concise. You may not use Public Question Time as an opportunity to make speeches or statements.

Questions in writing should be sent to the Committee Officer whose contact details appear on the agenda above or to the Chief Legal Officer, we will publish it, along with the answer, alongside the Minutes. The process associated with asking a public question is set out in the "Public Question Time at Council Meetings Protocol and Guidance" available on the Council's Website. ([Public Question Time Guidance](#)) or from the Committee Officer named above.

LICENSING COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 16 DECEMBER 2019

PRESENT:- Councillors Vera Tomlinson (Chair), Abdul Amin, John Ballman, Alan Bishop, Steph Exell, Emma Faramarzi, Nick Martin, Brian Mattock, Imtiyaz Shaikh, Caryl Sydney-Smith, Nadine Watts and Peter Watts.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Malcolm Davies, Paul Dixon and Garry Perkins.

26. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting. Councillor Abdul Amin made a non prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of Agenda Item No. 5 as he had a number of friends in the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire trade.

27. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 30th October 2019, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

28. Public Question Time

Mr Andy Lucas made comments and asked questions in respect of whether the proposals set out in the report in respect of reviewing the age limits for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles and the requirement for those vehicles to meet emission standards would be applied to all vehicles operated and owned by the Council as well as other public transport vehicles and vehicles undertaking services on behalf of the Council. The Chair responded at the meeting.

Mr Keith Radway asked (a) whether a meeting could be arranged with taxi and private hire trade representatives once it was known how the reduction of emission levels for other types of vehicles, including vehicles used by voluntary sector transport providers, had been agreed by the Council, (b) the rationale for reducing the age of private hire and hackney carriage vehicles and the effect on drivers and operators, and (c) whether the focus of any review should be centred on the ability of vehicles to pass emission tests rather than their age. The Chair responded at the meeting.

29. Consideration to review Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Age Limits and requirement to meet emissions standards

The Committee considered (a) a report of the Council's Licensing Manager in respect of a proposed eight week consultation with the Private Hire and Hackney Carriage trade in respect of (i) a change to the current age of that licensed vehicles from five years to four years, and (ii) the introduction of a requirement that all taxis and private hire vehicles be required to meet the Euro 6 emissions standards by 2024, and (b) an oral update by the Council's Licensing

Manager in respect of the proposed consultation process.

Resolved – That the Council's Licensing Manager be authorised to undertake an eight week consultation period with the Private Hire and Hackney Carriage trade regarding (a) a change to the current age of that licensed vehicles from are first licensed from five years to four years, and (b) the introduction of a requirement that all taxis and private hire vehicles be required to meet the Euro 6 emissions standards by 2024, and that the results of this consultation be reported back to this Committee for consideration.