

Swindon Borough Council

Licensing Committee

Friday, 17 May 2019

Council Chamber, Civic Offices

At 3.34 p.m. (or upon the rising of the Appointments Committee)

To: All Councillors

Committee Officer: Shaun Banks (Telephone: 07980 752047)

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AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. 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.

3. Minutes (Pages 3 - 4)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2019.

4. 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.

5. Local Government Act 1989 - Section 15: Political Balance Arrangements

"That Committees be reminded of their duty to carry out a review under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and recommended that, having carried out the review, they continue to apply the political balance provisions." (Recommendation to the meeting of Swindon Borough Council on 17th May 2019.)

(See report of Interim Director of Law to Annual Meeting of the Borough Council for details of the political balance arrangements.)

6. Appointment of Sub-Committees and Panel

(a) Ad Hoc Licensing Sub-Committee. (Recommended Membership - seven Members on a basis of four Conservative Group Members and three Labour Group Members.)

(b) Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licensing Sub-Committee.

(Recommended Membership - seven Members on a basis of four Conservative

Group Members and three Labour Group Members.)

(c) Licensing Panel. (Recommended Membership - three Members to be drawn from the Membership of this Committee.)

Date of Despatch: 09 May 2019

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). We will give priority to those who submit questions in writing at least two days before the meeting. 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 Director of Law and Democratic Services, 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.

(<http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

Access Arrangements – *The Venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you would wish to attend the meeting but have any special requirement to enable you to do so please contact the Committee Clerk above, as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.*

If you would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size please contact the Committee Officer whose name appears on the first page of this agenda.

LICENSING COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 14 MARCH 2019

PRESENT:- Councillors Vera Tomlinson (Chair), Abdul Amin, Alan Bishop, Malcolm Davies, Paul Dixon, Steph Exell, Fionuala Foley, Nick Martin, Brian Mattock, Imtiyaz Shaikh, Caryl Sydney-Smith, Rahul Tarar and Nadine Watts.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors John Ballman and Peter Watts.

28. 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.

29. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th December 2018 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

30. Public Question Time

At the invitation of the Chair, Mr Des Broxter, Mr Andrew Lucas and Mr Mark Newton made representations in respect of the report on the consideration of the Council's policy to allow licence holders to work for more than one operator at a time.

31. Consideration to review licensing policy to allow licence holders to work for more than one operator at a time

The Committee considered (a) a report of the Council's Licensing Manager reviewing the Council's policy to allow licence holders to work for more than one operator at a time, an (b) the public representations made under public question time, and (c) written representations received from SN1 Cars.

Resolved – That Licensing Manager be authorised to undertake a public consultation in respect of the Council's policy to allow licence holders to work for more than one operator at a time and submit a report to this Committee setting out the results of the public consultation.

32. Review of conviction and caution policy in respect of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers

The Council's Licensing Manager submitted a report seeking authority to adopt the Institute of Licensing's Guidance on determining the suitability of applicants and licensees in the hackney and private hire trades.

Resolved – (1) That the Institute of Licensing's 'Guidance on determining the suitability of applicants and licensees in the hackney and private hire trades' be approved and this policy replace the Council's current policy in respect of convictions in respect of hackney and private hire drivers.

(2) That Council's the Licensing Manager be authorised to continue officer

delegation to assess new and existing drivers in accordance with the guidelines and take appropriate action in order to safeguard the fare paying public.