

LSC3

Contact Officer: Jenny Bryce-Chan

## **KIRKLEES COUNCIL**

### **LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday 11 February 2015**

Present: Councillor Ridgway in the Chair  
Councillors Bill Armer, Tony Brice, Jim Dodds, Steve Hall, Derek Hardcastle, Erin Hill, Christine Iredale, Abdul Patel, Hilary Richards, Mohan Sokhal

**1 Membership of the Committee**

Councillor Eric Firth substituted for Councillor Masood Ahmed  
Councillor Terry Lyons substituted for Councillor Karen Allison  
Councillor Donna Bellamy substituted for Councillor Andrew Palfreeman

**2 Appointment of Chair**

Councillor David Ridgway was appointed chair of the meeting.

**3 Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 15 October 2015 were approved as a correct record.

**4 Interests**

No interests were declared.

**5 Admission of the public**

The Committee considered the question of the exclusion of the public and determined that all the items be taken in public session.

**6 Deputations/Petitions**

No deputations or petitions were received.

**7 Public Question Time**

No questions were asked.

**8 Assessment Criteria & Convictions Policy**

The Committee considered a report which outlined the amendments to the scheme of delegation in relation to the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be noted.

**9 Taxi & Private Hire Licensing – Appointment System**

The Committee considered a report regarding the appointments system currently operated by the licensing service.

Trade representatives were in attendance at the meeting. Concerns were raised by members of the associations regarding delays in securing appointments. The representatives requested the introduction of half a day each week when appointments would not be necessary.

The Committee considered the submission of the Licensing Manager that emergency appointments were available for booking.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be noted.

**10 Taxi and Private Hire Licensing – 3 year badges**

The Committee considered a report relevant to the Deregulation Bill 2013-2014 (HC Bill 191). The Bill has completed both the Committee stage in the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The amendments to the bill are currently being considered by both Houses. Trade representatives requested that the Licensing Manager bring back to Committee consideration of the introduction of 3 year badges.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be noted.

**11 Revised Conviction Criteria – general**

The Committee considered a report relating to the revised policy on the relevance of criminal conduct, unsavoury conduct and complaints against License Holders and Applicants for licenses.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be noted.

**12 Revised Conviction Criteria – 9 points**

The Committee considered a report to determine whether paragraph 20 of the Assessment Criteria and Convictions Policy for Licensed Drivers should remain in its current format, be deleted or amended. The Licensing Manager presented a number of options.

Representatives from the Hackney Carriage Association, GMB Union and North Kirklees Private Hire made representations to the Committee with regard to paragraph 20. They asked that it be amended to require drivers with 9 points to take in-house training without the suspension of their license. They also made representations as to the financial impact of the suspension of licenses to taxi and private hire drivers.

**RESOLVED** - That approval be given for paragraph 20 of the Assessment Criteria and Convictions Policy for Licensed Drivers to be amended to “existing drivers who have accumulated 9 or more penalty points on their DVLA driving licence will, at their own expense, be required as soon as practically possible to take an extended driving test arranged by the council. In the event that the driver failed the test his/her Hackney Carriage/private hire licence will be revoked”

**13 Sexual Entertainment Venues**

The Committee considered a report to seek approval for the adoption of the amended Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 in relation to the introduction of a policy relating to

sex establishments, and the licensing of a new category of sex establishment called sexual entertainment venue.

**RESOLVED** - That the adoption of the Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy in relation to sex establishments be approved