

## **LICENSING, ENVIRONMENT & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Meeting: 6 July 2022

At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Shan Alexander (Chair) in the chair; Councillor Matt Wynne (Vice-Chair); Councillors Grace Baynham, Christine Carrigan, Stuart Corris, Liz Crix, Dickie Davies, Dean Fitzpatrick, Vince Shaw and Alanna Vine.

### **1. MINUTES**

The minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 15 December 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors and Officers were invited to declare any interest that they had in any of the items on the agenda for the meeting.

No declarations of interest were made.

### **3. URGENT DECISIONS**

No urgent decisions were reported.

### **4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No public questions were submitted.

### **5. GREATER MANCHESTER MINIMUM LICENSING STANDARDS FOR TAXIS AND PRIVATE HIRE - STAGE 2 (NEW TO LICENCE VEHICLES ONLY)**

A representative of the Director of Place Management submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) which presented Members with a set of recommendations relating to Stage 2 of the Greater Manchester Minimum Taxi Licensing Standards for Hackney and Private Hire Vehicles.

The following comments were made/issues raised:

- Following a member question, a short discussion took place in relation to the age limit on vehicles and the impact of this on the current fleet.
- Members asked about the uptake on the GM clean air grants on Hackney vehicles. In response, the Committee was advised that funding on this had been paused. An announcement on this was expected shortly.
- Members asked whether there was a risk that existing vehicles that are already on the fleet would be kept on the fleet longer than their natural life? In response, the Committee was advised that this will be reviewed on twice yearly inspections and in addition, drivers also have a responsibility on this on their daily inspections. This

was felt to be an important issue so Members requested that they were kept up to date on this.

- Charging points on ranks for electric vehicles was also going to be necessary.
- Members requested an age profile of all the vehicles that were currently on the rank.
- A short discussion took place on the ambition to have a single colour for private hire vehicles, particularly in view of the fact that vehicles licensed in Stockport could operate in other areas.
- In response to a Member question, Members were advised that there was currently no intention to centralise vehicle testing.
- Members raised the issue of human rights, privacy and GDPR in relation to CCTV in vehicles and whether this could be taken into account when the policy was drafted.
- Members were assured that consultation had taken place with existing drivers and trade associations and they were generally supportive of the new measures in relation to new vehicles. Discussions would be ongoing.

RESOLVED – (i) That the report be noted.

(ii) That the recommendations contained in the report be approved, as they apply to ‘new to licence vehicles’.

(iii) That officers be granted sufficient time for implementation of these standards, as from 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and outlined in Table A in Section 4 of this report.

## **6. UPDATE ON THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE REVIEW**

A representative of the Director of Place Management presented a verbal report which updated Members on the Hackney Carriage Fare Review.

RESOLVED – That the verbal report be noted.

## **7. APPLICATION TO VARY A CARAVAN LICENCE**

With the consent of the Chair, this Item was withdrawn.

The meeting closed at 6.52 pm