

LICENSING, ENVIRONMENT & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Meeting: 7 February 2024
At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Shan Alexander (Chair) in the chair; Councillor Dickie Davies (Vice-Chair); Councillors Grace Baynam, Liz Crix, Dean Fitzpatrick, Helen Foster-Grime, Will Sharp, Kerry Waters and Pete West.

1. MINUTES

The minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 13 December 2023 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

It was reported that 11 urgent decisions had been taken under the Constitution since the last meeting of the Committee.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No public questions were submitted.

5. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST TEST

RESOLVED – That in order to prevent the disclosure of information which was not for publication, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of agenda item 7, relating to paragraph 1 (Information relating to any individual) and paragraph 2 (Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

6. TAXI LICENSING VEHICLE STANDARDS POLICY

A representative of the Director of Place Management submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) which provided Members with a set of recommendations relating to a series of Taxi and Private Hire Licensing vehicle standards and conditions of licence.

The following comments were made/issues raised:

- The Committee noted that extensive discussions with the taxi trade had taken place over the years and the trade was largely supportive of the proposals.
- In response to a Member question, the Committee was advised that taxi drivers can operate in any area. Funding for these proposals however, would only be available for drivers who were licenced within Greater Manchester.
- Seven of the other nine Greater Manchester Authorities were already signed up to this scheme.

RESOLVED – That the recommendations contained in the report be approved for implementation from 8 February 2024 for new to licence vehicles, and with a transitional period for existing licences up to 31 December 2025 at which time all licenses approved by Stockport Council must be compliant with the approved set of vehicle standards.

7. CASE NUMBER P1779

A representative of the Director of Place Management submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) requesting the committee to consider whether the applicant was a 'fit and proper' person to hold a private hire car driver's licence in view of the applicant's previous convictions. The Committee interviewed the driver in relation to these matters.

RESOLVED – That the application be granted.

The meeting closed at 6.40 pm