

Minutes of the meeting of the LICENSING COMMITTEE held on WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2017 at 6:30 pm

**Present:** Councillor Morris (Chair)  
Councillors Alexander, Buckley, Geaney, Green, McDonald, Patey-Smith, Petchey, Webb, C Williams and P Williams.

**Officers:** N Allen (Head Of Regulatory Services), J Agar (Regulatory Unit Senior Practitioner), N Ahmad (Solicitor - Planning and Environment, Legal and Democratic Services), S Bailey (Parking Strategy and Implementation Manager), A Burton (Rights of Way Officer), E Fisher (Senior Practitioner), L Gardner (Case Manager Litigation), L Hodgkinson (Regulatory Unit Practitioner), E Kampaite (Solicitor - Planning and Environment), A Ward (Senior Practitioner) and T Milner (Committee Manager).

**Also Present:** 10 Members of the public.

**Apologies:** Councillor Legg

**LC12 MINUTES**

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 7 December 2016 and the Minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 22 November 2016, 19 January 2017 and 23 January 2017 be approved and signed by the Chair as correct records, subject to the Minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee meeting held on 22 November 2016 being amended to replace the duplicate entry of Councillor Morris with Councillor Wallis under the 'Present' heading.

**LC13 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

None disclosed.

**LC14 CORPORATE ENFORCEMENT POLICY**

The Committee considered the Council's Corporate Enforcement Policy.

The Committee heard from the Case Manager (Litigation), who reminded the Committee about the importance of having a Policy in place and that the Council's Policy had incorporated the Government's guidance, which stated that enforcement should be dealt with by councils giving advice, serving warnings and seeking compliance by other means.

Councillor Morris reassured the Committee that Councillor Legg, responsible Cabinet member for Customer Services, was well informed of the Policy and had been involved with the mediation

meeting to consider the call in, and if there had been any budgetary concerns, the matter would have been raised during mediation. However, the call in for the item had been withdrawn at mediation, when agreement was reached that the Policy should be submitted to this Committee and to the Regulatory Committee for information.

The Regulatory Unit Senior Practitioner reassured the Committee, that the Taxi Licensing team was sufficiently staffed to deal with the current volume of prosecutions, all work was undertaken in consultation with the Legal team and all complaints were thoroughly investigated.

Councillor Morris suggested that the Committee might wish to consider looking at putting in place specific guidelines as to how both this Committee, and the Regulatory Committee dealt with enforcement issues. The new guidelines could be based along the guidelines used for both Development Control Committee and Development Panel Committee s.

Councillor Morris proposed and Councillor Buckley seconded:

- “1. That the Corporate Enforcement Policy be noted.
2. That guidelines to aid the Committee when dealing with enforcement issues be drawn up and used at future meetings of the Licensing Committee.”

On being put to the vote, the motion was carried.

RESOLVED –

1. That the Corporate Enforcement Policy be noted.
2. That guidelines to aid the Committee when dealing with enforcement issues be drawn up and used at future meetings of the Licensing Committee

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 6.50PM