

ITEM 3



Minutes of the meeting of the REGULATORY COMMITTEE held on WEDNESDAY
20 APRIL 2011 at 17.36 pm

Present: Councillor Burke (Chair)
Councillors Box, Bradburn, McKenzie, Mallyon and Tamagnini-Barbosa

Officers: P Winsor (Assistant Director – Regulatory Services), C Londy (Head of Environmental Health), S Teesdale (Environmental Health Team Leader – Community), I Ali (Principal Solicitor), J Zammit (Committee Manager).

Apologies: Councillors Barry, Kennedy and Zealley

Also Present: Mr R Erdogan

**Number of
Public Present:** 1

RC38 MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Regulatory Committee held on 16 March 2011 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

RC39 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Committee heard from Mr Erdogan that he had submitted a question in respect of increasing the length of the Civil Licence for the use of Pitch A (CMK near the Xscape) to be greater than 12 months.

RESOLVED –

1. That a report come to the next meeting of the Committee to consider extending the length of the Civil Licence for Pitch A (CMK).

RC40 TAXI ARRANGEMENTS IN RESPECT OF THE FOO FIGHTERS CONCERT AT THE NATIONAL BOWL

The Head of Environmental Health informed the Committee of the Council's efforts to ensure adequate taxi provision for the upcoming Foo Fighters concert at the National Bowl.

There was concern over taxi provision because after a concert last year over 100 people were still waiting for taxi's early into the morning. There had also been issues around Hackney Carriages blocking spaces and customers not being able to get to their booked cabs.

The proposal for the Foo Fighters concert is to use Chesney Wold as a taxi rank, this facility will be enhanced by allowing drivers to turn right to enter (which is normally not permissible). Furthermore an area of Knowlhill will be allocated for Private Hire pickups, it is expected that this will help prevent illegal plying for hire from Private Hire taxi's.

Officers had also informed the Committee that a temporary operators licence was being sought so that there could be better management of the event, however so far there had been little support amongst the trade for the proposal and no-one willing to put forward the money or the staff for it.

The Committee noted that in the past taxi provision at concerts had been poor and more guidance was needed to help the taxi trade to provide an adequate service, especially hackney carriages. There was also a concern about safety of concert goers and that the Council should be providing staff to ensure safety. Officers informed the Committee that arrangements were being made to ensure there will be staff to help direct taxi's and concert goers, however there were still issues to do with the funding of staff to resolve.

RESOLVED –

That the verbal update be noted.

RC41

CHANGES TO ALCOHOL LICENSING CHARGES IN RESPONSE TO THE POLICE REFORM AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES BILL

The Police Reform and Social Responsibilities Bill aims to rebalance the Licensing Act 2003 in favour of local authorities, the police and local communities.

The Committee was informed that the Bill is still being discussed in the House of Lords and amendments may still come.

Provision to implement a late night levy has been included in the bill which will allow for Local Authorities to charge premises a late night levy if they are open past midnight to help with policing costs. Premises can avoid the cost by voluntarily reducing their licensable hours to midnight and the Local Authority can designate premises that are exempt if it wishes to. Officers informed the Committee that the rate of the levy will be set nationally.

Other impacts from the Bill include the power for Local Authorities to suspend a premises licence due to non payment of licence fees. Also Environmental Health will have powers to object to Temporary Event Notices and the Local Authority can apply conditions to Temporary Event Notices.

Members noted that many provisions had been promised originally in the Localism Bill but had never materialised, members thanked officers for finding the provisions listed in this Bill instead.

Members agreed that the levy would be an opportunity to help provide extra funds to the police while allowing the Council to cover any additional administration costs incurred.

RESOLVED -

That the briefing note be noted.

RC42

CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES – EXPERIMENTAL STREET TRADING ARRANGEMENTS - PITCH A

The Assistant Director – Regulatory Services informed the Committee that when the experimental pitches (near CMK) had been set up originally there was a desire to make sure the traders who used them were of a high standard and the system of using a voluntary MOGO plate that would ensure this was proposed and put on as a requirement of the licence for trading on the experimental pitches. However in practice the scheme has proven to be not cost effective as few have taken up the MOGO plate and the costs of administering it outweigh the fees from the licence. Therefore it was proposed to the Committee to remove the need for this plate.

RESOLVED -

That the requirement for mobile traders to hold an Environmental Health / Trading Standards 'MOGO' plate to trade on Pitch A civil licence is removed.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 18.26 Hrs