



LICENSING COMMITTEE

MEETING TO BE HELD IN CIVIC HALL, LEEDS ON
TUESDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2017 AT 10.00 AM

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

N Buckley	Alwoodley;
R Downes	Otley and Yeadon;
J Dunn	Ardsley and Robin Hood;
B Flynn	Adel and Wharfedale;
B Gettings	Morley North;
M Harland	Kippax and Methley;
G Hyde	Killingbeck and Seacroft;
A Khan	Burmantofts and Richmond Hill;
B Selby (Chair)	Killingbeck and Seacroft;
C Townsley	Horsforth;
G Wilkinson	Wetherby;
A Garthwaite	Headingley;
K Groves	Middleton Park;
S McKenna	Garforth and Swillington;
J Pryor	Headingley;

Agenda compiled by:
Tel No:
Governance Services
Civic Hall
LEEDS LS1 1UR

John Grieve
37 88662

A G E N D A

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded)</p> <p>(*In accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2, written notice of an appeal must be received by the Head of Governance Services at least 24 hours before the meeting)</p>	
2			<p>EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <p>1 To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report.</p> <p>2 To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information.</p> <p>3 If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-</p> <p>RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of those parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information</p>	

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
3			<p>LATE ITEMS</p> <p>To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration</p> <p>(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes)</p>	
4			<p>DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS</p> <p>To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and paragraphs 13-16 of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p>	
5			<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>To receive apologies for absence (If any)</p>	
6			<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 1st August 2017.</p> <p>(Copy attached)</p>	1 - 4
7			<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</p> <p>To consider any matters arising from the minutes.</p>	
8			<p>TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE</p> <p>To consider a report by the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration which provides an update on taxi and private hire licensing activity and enforcement priorities.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>	5 - 14

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
9	City and Hunslet		<p>LEEDS CITY CENTRE EVENING & NIGHT TIME ECONOMY</p> <p>To consider a report by the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration which provides an overview of the partnership working and improvements within the city centre evening and night time economy in support of the licensing objectives and Purple Flag accreditation.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>	15 - 20
10	City and Hunslet		<p>POLICING AND THE NIGHT TIME ECONOMY</p> <p>To receive a presentation from Sergeant Dave Shaw, West Yorkshire Police on the issues of "Policing and the Night Time Economy"</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>	21 - 22
11			<p>LICENSING COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18</p> <p>To note the contents of the Licensing Committee Work Programme 2017/18.</p> <p>(Copy attached)</p>	23 - 26
12			<p>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>To note that the next meeting will take place on <u>Wednesday</u> 4th October 2017 at 10.00am in the Civic Hall, Leeds.</p>	

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
			<p>Third Party Recording</p> <p>Recording of this meeting is allowed to enable those not present to see or hear the proceedings either as they take place (or later) and to enable the reporting of those proceedings. A copy of the recording protocol is available from the contacts named on the front of this agenda.</p> <p>Use of Recordings by Third Parties– code of practice</p> <p>a) Any published recording should be accompanied by a statement of when and where the recording was made, the context of the discussion that took place, and a clear identification of the main speakers and their role or title.</p> <p>b) Those making recordings must not edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or comments made by attendees. In particular there should be no internal editing of published extracts; recordings may start at any point and end at any point but the material between those points must be complete.</p>	

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Licensing Committee

Tuesday, 1st August, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor B Selby in the Chair

Councillors N Buckley, R Downes, J Dunn,
B Flynn, M Harland, G Hyde, A Khan,
C Townsley, G Wilkinson, A Garthwaite,
K Groves and J Pryor

27 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair Welcomed Councillor K Groves to her first meeting of the Licensing Committee.

28 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

29 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

That, in accordance with Regulation 4 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting during Consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as exempt on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information so designated as follows:-

Appendix B & C to Agenda Item No.10, Leeds Festival 2017 – Summary of Changes for the Event Management Plan was designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rules 10.4 (3, 7) because it contained information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person. (Minute No.38 Referred)

30 Late Items

There were no late items of business.

31 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests made at the meeting.

32 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: B Gettings and S McKenna.

33 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Tuesday, 5th September, 2017

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4th July 2017, were accepted as a true and correct record

34 Matters Arising

- (i) De-Regulation - With reference to the meeting held on 3rd April 2017 and the decision to send a letter to the appropriate Minister responsible together with all Leeds Members of Parliament and the Local Government Association (LGA) expressing this Committee's concerns at the consequences of de-regulation.

The Chair reminded Members of the necessity to lobby all Leeds MPs about the consequences of de-regulation with particular reference to the issue of drivers operating in the Leeds area but who were licensed by other authorities.

- (ii) Developments and Improvements to the Taxi and Private Hire Service – With reference to the meeting of 3rd April 2017 when Members considered a report which provided details of the work being carried out to improve the Taxi and Private Hire Service. It was suggested by one Member that a visit be arranged to the Taxi and Private Hire offices to view first-hand the developments and improvements to the service.

In responding the Chair said it was his understanding that works were still ongoing and that it would be more appropriate to visit the premises at a later date when development/ improvement works had been completed

35 Hackney Carriage (Taxi) Tariff Review 2017

The Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration submitted a report which set out details of proposals to review and increase the tariffs charged by taxis in Leeds, following recommendations from the Local Hackney Carriage Associations.

Appended to the report were copies of the following documents:

- Leeds City Council - Current Hackney Carriage Tariff (Appendix 1 referred)
- Hackney Carriage Tariff Comparisons with other Local Authorities (Appendix 2 referred)

In addressing the report the Licensing & Finance Manager informed Members that:

- The City Council had the authority to set the Hackney Carriage (taxi) tariffs for the 537 taxis licensed by the Council
- The tariff established the maximum fare charged by a licensed Leeds Hackney Carriage Vehicle
- To fix the schedule of fares, a written request is submitted to the council, usually by the hackney carriage associations. The application must include

details of the increase/decrease and provide supporting evidence. The council will grant, amend or refuse the application.

- The council is obliged to advertise for a period of 28 days any variation to an approved table of fares. Any objections to the proposal must be considered before new tariffs are brought into force.
- Once a fare increase has been approved, the council is required to ensure all licensed hackney carriage vehicles have meters which show the new tariffs, and to ensure that meters are checked and sealed, and that there are clear fare cards for each vehicle. This is to ensure that members of the public are not overcharged for their journey, and that there is a clear explanation about the fare change or increase.
- The Council last reviewed the Hackney Carriage Tariff in May 2012.

Members queried if a passenger could agree a fare at the start of a journey.

In responding officers said the tariff established the maximum fare charge, however, an alternative fare could be negotiated at the start of the journey.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted
- (ii) That the Hackney Carriage Tariff review be supported

36 Licensing Committee Work Programme 2017/18

Members considered the contents of the Licensing Committee Work Programme for 2017/18.

RESOLVED – To approve the contents of the Licensing Committee Work Programme for 2017/18

37 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED – To note that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 5th September 2017 at 10.00am in the Civic Hall, Leeds.

38 Leeds Festival 2017

The Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration submitted a report on the progress of the multi-agency meetings and the Event Management Plan for the 2017 Annual Leeds Festival, to be held within the grounds of Bramham Park, Friday 25th until Sunday 27th August 2017.

The report also recommended that the approval of the final Event Management Plan be delegated to the Head of Elections, Licensing & Registration.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Tuesday, 5th September, 2017

A copy of the Premises Licence detailing the activities permitted was attached as Appendix A. The draft Event Management Plan including a summary of changes was included as Appendix B and a Memorandum of understanding in respect of the cleaning of the public highway arrangements was included as Appendix C – Both Appendix B & C were exempt from publication.

Melvin Benn together with Harmony Blake, Festival Republic Ltd, attended the meeting and discussed the management plans for the Festival with Members.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted
- (ii) That approval of the Event Management Plan, including any minor amendments necessary to the Plan before the Festival takes place, be delegated to the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration
- (iii) That, should the Event Management Plan be subject to amendment without the relevant agency consent, or be of a nature which officers consider may impact on the Licensing Objectives, then it will be brought back before the Licensing Committee prior to the Festival taking place.



Report author: Andrew White

Tel: 3781562

Report of **Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration**

Report to **Licensing Committee**

Date: **5 September 2017**

Subject: **Taxi and Private Hire Enforcement update**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

- 1 This report updates Licensing Committee on enforcement activity by Taxi and Private Hire Licensing. It draws attention to the current enforcement priorities of the city centre and night time economy, and outlines the challenges of 'out of town' or 'cross border' operating, which has required the enforcement team to work more closely with the police and neighbouring licensing authorities.
- 2 The report also advises committee members of recent and planned enforcement actions and priorities, including encouraging and responding to feedback and complaints about the hackney carriage and private hire trade, carrying out vehicle inspections and mystery shopping.

Recommendations

- 1 That Members note the information in this report.
- 2 To seek Members' support for and input into the council's taxi and private hire licensing enforcement activity.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To inform members of Taxi and Private Hire Licensing (TPHL) enforcement priorities, and recent activity.
- 1.2 To advise members of planned enforcement activity.

2 Background information

- 2.1 For laws and local conditions to be effective, they need to be enforced. Under current law, responsibility for enforcement of the taxi and private hire licensing lies with the licensing authority that issued the relevant licence. In particular, licensing authorities have powers to suspend or revoke licences, to refuse to renew them, or to place additional conditions on licences. Licensing authorities can also bring criminal charges against a suspected offender. Where breaches of licensing conditions also constitute offences, the police can also take enforcement action.
- 2.2 Under current law, licensing officers are unable to undertake enforcement against vehicles, drivers and operators licensed in another area, and such 'cross border' operating is a regular occurrence in Leeds, particularly at nights, linked to the large night time economy in the city centre. The long term aim of the Local Government Association (LGA), which represents licensing authorities, is for a national licensing database, and national licensing conditions, which can be enforced, irrespective of where the driver and vehicle are licenced.
- 2.3 The council is providing input to an LGA project, and is also lobbying the minister for Transport for a change in licensing and enforcement law. The council is working closely with neighbouring authorities and with West Yorkshire Police to put in place additional arrangements, which will enable the five West Yorkshire authorities and City of York Council (West Yorkshire & York) to take effective enforcement action against any private hire or taxi vehicle licenced by any of the six authorities.
- 2.4 The TPHL enforcement team currently has the following structure:
 - Operations Manager
 - 2 Principal Enforcement Officers (grade PO1, 1 post currently vacant, although a recruitment exercise is underway)
 - 8 Enforcement Officers (grade SO1, 1 officer is currently on maternity leave, although a recruitment exercise is underway)
- 2.5 The Principal Enforcement Officers and Enforcement Officers work a shift pattern of 4 days and 5 nights per fortnight. Each night shift starts between 5:30pm to 8.00pm and ends between 2.00am and 4.30am, this increase takes into consideration the night time economy, and the need for officers to work later on a weekend. The posts are quite specialist in nature, requiring a qualification in vehicle inspection or testing, as well as experience in relevant regulation and legislation. TPHL has found it quite challenging to recruit effectively to fill posts where there is a requirement for candidates to be qualified in vehicle inspection and have a knowledge of relevant regulations and legislation, and this has also affected the ability of the service to recruit to the Vehicle Examiner role.

3 Main issues

Enforcement priorities

- 3.1 The detection of plying for hire and touting offences continues to be a priority for TPHL enforcement. With the increase of “out of town / cross border” vehicles, this heightens the concerns in detecting such offences and reducing the risk for the travelling public in Leeds. In 2017, more than 200 vehicles have been checked for plying for hire, using mystery shoppers in detecting such offences, and will be continuing for the rest of this year. In around 10% of those cases, the driver accepted the fare without a booking, and the team is reviewing the evidence to consider prosecution of 19 cases.
- 3.2 There has been a steady increase over the last few months of “out of town / cross border” vehicles operating in Leeds. To ensure compliance with the local conditions for which the vehicle and driver are licensed, Enforcement Officers are planning to undertake joint training with the West Yorkshire & York authorities, to agree a memorandum of understanding, and to provide appropriate badges and vehicle rectification notices to support routine inspections on these vehicles. As an interim measure, the enforcement team has been working closely with West Yorkshire Police on operations where the Police have the relevant authority to stop and inspect such vehicles.
- 3.3 A database of over 500 “out of town / cross border” vehicle observations has been established jointly by officers from TPHL and the Trade. This database is being used in the TPHL CCTV vehicle’s number plate recognition (ANPR) system and is being closely monitored. Information of “out of town / cross border” vehicle movements can be referred to the appropriate licensing authority.
- 3.4 Some of the enforcement activity relates to incidents which have been initially referred to West Yorkshire Police, and drivers are sometimes suspended until the Police investigation has been completed and information disclosed to the council. There has been a slowdown of information supplied to the team from other agencies, including West Yorkshire Police, mainly on disclosure issues. However, safeguarding cases are still being reported, and are being dealt with under the council’s safeguarding policies. To address the disclosure issues, TPHL is working more closely with Police colleagues in Safer Leeds to improve information sharing and disclosure arrangements.
- 3.5 The council promotes good taxi awareness in the city, such as on its web page <http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/are-you-taxi-aware.aspx>, a screenshot is provided at the end of this report, and a link will be demonstrated on the screen in the Licensing Committee meeting. Over the first seven months of 2017, the team has received 401 complaints about the trade, which have been dealt with by officers from the enforcement team. This is an increase on the number of complaints in 2016, and continues a trend of a 10% or higher increase each year.
- 3.6 The team moved to a new complaints recording system, allowing monitoring of trends and better analytical reports can be established. Complaints can also be

easily linked to the driver's or operator's record to ensure that any continued non-compliance can be better monitored and any appropriate action can be taken.

Recent enforcement activity

- 3.7 Over the first half of 2017, 660 compliance inspections have been undertaken on vehicles licensed by this authority resulting in:
- 51 Vehicle Suspensions (issues for defects or breaches in condition).
 - 39 Vehicle Rectifications (issues for defects not of a serious nature).
 - 44 Pass and Advisory notices (issues for minor non-compliance matters).
- 3.8 Officers have also undertaken around 100 voluntary compliance inspection on "out of town / cross border" vehicles, and any breaches in local conditions have been reported back to the licensing authority in which the vehicle is licensed.
- 3.9 With the increase in "out of town / cross border" licensed vehicles working within the Leeds area, enforcement officers from Kirklees, Calderdale, Bradford and Rossendale have worked in Leeds to assist TPHL officers on vehicle /driver compliance inspections and plying for hire operations. This has resulted in a number of plying for hire offences being identified, and more submissions have been made for consideration of prosecution during the first seven months of 2017 than in the whole of 2016.
- 3.10 To assist in the detection of plying for hire offences, officers from TPHL have been utilising the CCTV control room contained within the licensing sections offices. If vehicles have been observed and evidence has been obtained suggesting that the driver has plied for hire, submissions have also been made for consideration of prosecution.
- 3.11 Joint working with the Guide Dogs for the Blind at the beginning of the year a telephone test purchase operation was undertaken with a sample of licensed operators to ensure compliance with the Equalities Act 2010. This ensured that any member of the public travelling with a guide dog wishing to obtain the services of licensed vehicles for transportation are not discriminated against. However, passengers requiring wheelchair accessible vehicles, still regularly report unreliable service, and so TPHL will continue a focus on accessibility for guide dogs, assistance dogs and wheelchair users.
- 3.12 Purple Flag - both TPHL management and enforcement officers have been working closely with Leeds Bid by continuing to development in its priorities with the night time economy report on purple flag.

Planned enforcement activity

- 3.13 The enforcement team is supporting various long term and ad hoc operations with other agencies such as West Yorkshire Police and other authorities. In addition to their normal operations, officers are currently supporting:-

Operation Capital is a City Centre operation looking at the night time economy. This operation runs every Friday and Saturday night and officers from TPHL

conduct their duties looking at compliance issues in the major hot spots in the Leeds City Centre.

Operation Brewlock is a monthly multi agency operation led by North Leeds Policing teams where by a specific areas of concern are identified and officers patrol in the area conducting compliance checks on vehicles and drivers.

Operation Walk Safe is a Police led safety scheme for new students in Leeds. Officers from TPHL will be conducting patrols between Headingley and the city centre corridor undertaking compliance inspections on licensed vehicles.

Headingley Stadium the enforcement team has also been undertaking routine patrols / compliance inspections at various rugby and cricket fixtures. These patrols will continue, and officers have covered the test match as well as other events.

Leeds Festival the enforcement team has also been undertaking routine patrols / compliance inspections at Leeds Festival at Bramham and other key hotspots during the event. Additional enforcement cover was provided on the bank holiday Sunday.

- 3.14 Looking forward, funding has been secured for a twelve month plan for additional support from West Yorkshire Roads Policing Team. This will mean that officers from TPHL and WYP will be working jointly on a Friday and Saturday night in Leeds undertaking enforcement action in two marked police vehicles. This will also assist in Operation Capital. This project is in the initial planning stage, and will be rolled out very shortly.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 The service consults and engages regularly with the hackney carriage and private hire trade. The services holds forum meetings three times a year, with the private hire operators and separately with recognised hackney carriage associations/groups, and issues a newsletter three times a year.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 Equality and Cohesion Screening Assessments will be carried out on any changes to training provision.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 The Taxi & Private Hire Licensing policies contribute to the following aims:

Best Council Plan 2013 -17

Towards being an Enterprising Council

Our Ambition and Approach

Our Ambition is for Leeds to be the best city and Leeds City Council to be the best council in the UK – fair, open and welcoming with an economy that is both prosperous and sustainable so all our communities are successful.

Our Approach is to adopt a new leadership style of civic enterprise, where the council becomes more enterprising, business and partners become more civic, and citizens become more actively engaged in the work of the city.

Our Best Council Outcomes

Make it easier for people to do business with us.

Our Best Council Objectives

Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth – Improving the economic wellbeing of local people and businesses. With a focus on:

- Helping people into jobs;
- Boosting the local economy; and
- Generating income for the council.

Ensuring high quality public services – improving quality, efficiency and involving people in shaping their city. With a focus on;

- Getting services right first time; and
- Improving customer satisfaction.

4.3.2 Taxi & Private Hire Licensing policies contribute to priorities:

- Reduce crime levels and their impact across Leeds;
- Effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in communities;
- Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

4.3.3 Leeds City Council has both a moral and legal obligation to ensure the duty of care for both children and vulnerable adults across all of its services. This cannot be achieved by any single service or agency. Safeguarding is ultimately the responsibility of all of us and depends on the everyday vigilance of staff, who play a part in the lives of children or vulnerable adults.

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 The Taxi and Private Hire Licensing service is cost neutral to the Council and by virtue of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1976, raises its own revenue by setting fees to meet the cost of issuing and administering licenses.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 There are no legal implications arising from these proposals, and they are not subject to call in or publication.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.2 There are no risk management implications arising from these proposals, and they are not subject to call in or publication.

5 Conclusions

5.1 The council's Taxi and Private Hire Licensing enforcement activity is essential to making sure the law and the council's local conditions are maintained. The

council faces a number of challenges and pressures in providing a visible and effective enforcement function, particularly a busy night time economy and high level of cross-border working.

- 5.2 In recent months, the council has focused on some key areas of risk in the city, with some success. The team has strengthened its focus on plying for hire, through use of mystery shopping and CCTV footage, and continues to encourage feedback from the travelling public.

6 **Recommendations**

- 6.1 That members note the information in this report.
- 6.2 To seek Members' support for and input into the council's taxi and private hire licensing enforcement activity.

7 **Background documents**

<http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/are-you-taxi-aware.aspx> screen print

<http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/are-you-taxi-aware.aspx> screen print

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Leeds City Council website. The address bar shows the URL: <http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/are-you-taxi-aware.aspx>. The page title is "Are you taxi aware? - information for passengers".

The website header includes the Leeds City Council logo, a search bar, and navigation links: A to Z, Newsroom, Contact us, Accessibility, and a language selector. Below the header is a large banner with the text "leeds.gov.uk" and a date "LEEDS MONDAY 14 AUGUST".

The main navigation bar includes tabs for Residents, Sports, Leisure, Business, Your council, Where I live, What's on, and MyLeeds login. The "Residents" tab is selected.

The breadcrumb trail shows: Home > Residents > Are you taxi aware? - information for passengers.

The main content area is titled "Are you taxi aware? - information for passengers". It contains the following text:

We are responsible for making sure that the taxi and private hire trade in Leeds is operated in a professional manner and that the correct standards of safety and comfort are satisfied by all licensed drivers, vehicles and operators. We licence vehicles, drivers and operators and work to ensure that they meet the specific conditions that are placed upon their licence.

Our overriding principle is the safety of the travelling public and we are committed to contributing to a high quality transport service and continuous development and improvement within the taxi and private hire trade.

It is recognised that those who are licensed by the section are the biggest providers of transport in the evening and night time economy and safe licensing and monitoring of licensed drivers and vehicles contributes significantly to the safety of the travelling public.

The number of taxi and private hire licences issued by Leeds City Council can vary month on month however at the end of May 2017 we had issued the following number of licences:

- 5230 private hire driver licences
- 945 Hackney carriage (taxi) driver licences
- 77 private hire operator licences
- 4409 private hire vehicle licences
- 537 Hackney carriage (taxi) vehicles

You can view our most up to date licence figures by visiting the [Data Mill North](#) which is updated monthly.

Are you aware that not all taxis are the same?

Although Hackney carriages (taxis), can be hailed in the street, private hire vehicles cruising the streets looking for customers are illegal, uninsured and potentially very dangerous. Never use any vehicle which is not licensed.

You can tell the difference between a Hackney carriage (taxi) and a private hire vehicle quite easily. Hackney carriages have an illuminated sign on their roof and they have a predominantly white body and black boot and bonnet 'a black & white taxi' or they will be covered in advertising, which is known as a full corporate body wrap.

Are there any safeguards when using a taxi or private hire vehicle?

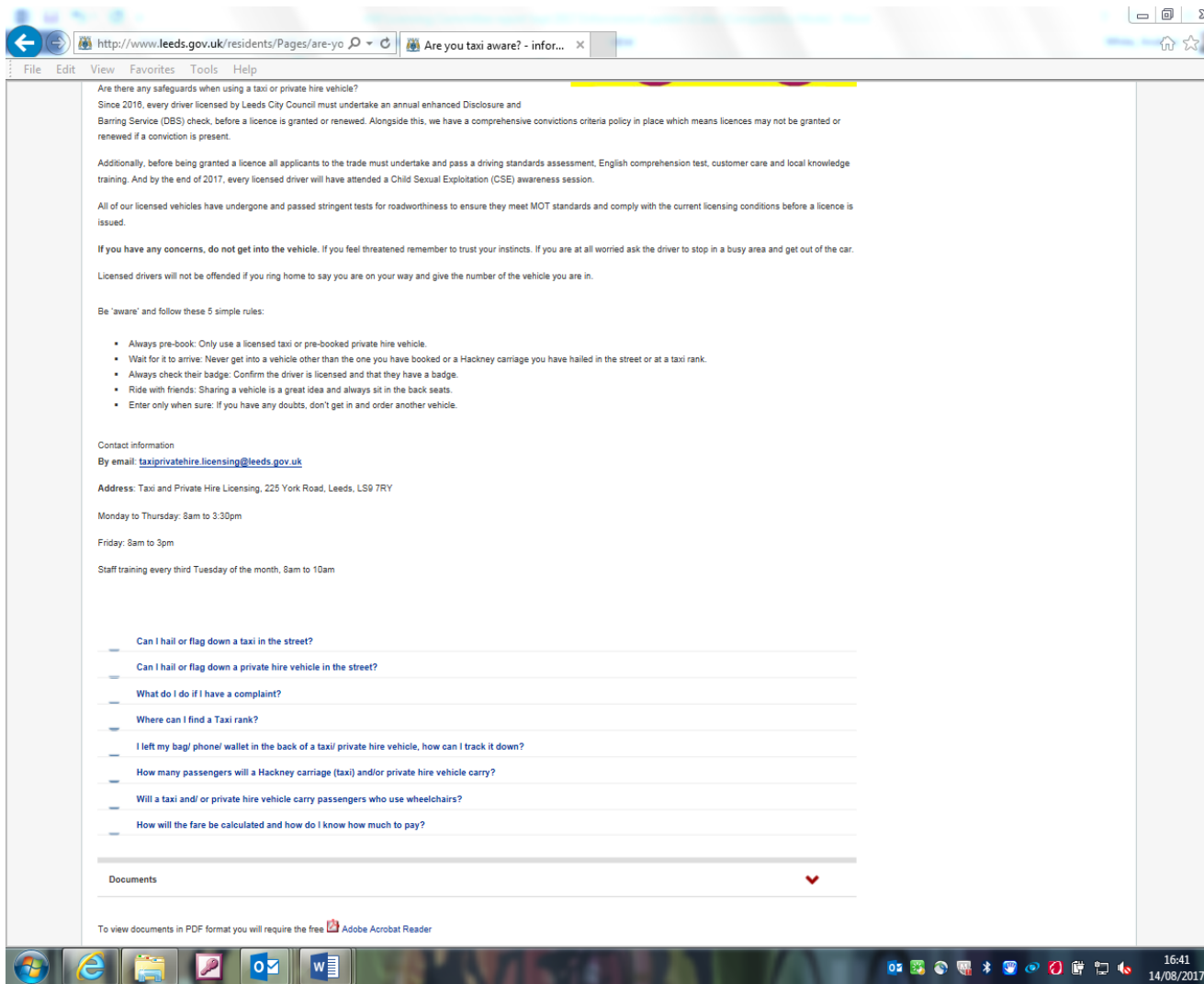
Since 2016, every driver licensed by Leeds City Council must undertake an annual enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, before a licence is granted or renewed. Alongside this, we have a comprehensive convictions criteria policy in place which means licences may not be granted or renewed if a conviction is present.

Additionally, before being granted a licence all applicants to the trade must undertake and pass a driving standards assessment, English comprehension test, customer care and local knowledge training. And by the end of 2017, every licensed driver will have attended a Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) awareness session.

On the right side of the page, there is a "Related Pages" section with a link to "Your community". Below that is a "Contact us" section with a form to provide full name, date of birth, and licence number, and fields for email and address.

A large yellow graphic with the text "ARE YOU TAXI AWARE?" is positioned on the right side of the main content area.

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the date and time as 16:40 on 14/08/2017.



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Report of Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration

Report to Licensing Committee

Date: 5th September 2017

Subject: Leeds City Centre Evening & Night Time Economy

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	City & Holbeck	
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number:		
Appendix number:		

Summary of main issues

1. This report provides the Licensing Committee with an overview of the partnership working and improvements within the city centre evening and night time economy in support of the licensing objectives and Purple Flag accreditation.

Recommendations

2. That Licensing Committee hear from representatives of the Purple Flag partnership.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To present to the Licensing Committee an update of Purple Flag and the evening and night time economy (ENTE).

2 Background information

- 2.1 In November 2016 Members of the Licensing Committee were presented with the annual review of the cumulative impact areas for the City Centre.
- 2.2 Members were concerned to hear that the West Yorkshire Police crime statistics for the preceding 12 months demonstrated that violent crime and theft had increased significantly in the red zone areas of the city centre and continued to be problematic.
- 2.3 Furthermore Licensing Members have joined the West Yorkshire Police during Operation Capital on Saturday evenings. The Members witnessed the vibrancy of the city centre in to the early hours of Sunday morning, and the effective partnership working, but also identified the high demands on police resources.
- 2.4 In March 2017 the Members considered a report and heard from partners of the collective work underway to improve the experience and safety of visitors and residents of the City during the evening and night-time economy.
- 2.5 Members requested a further update report in six months' time.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 In January 2017 the City was awarded Purple Flag status for the management of the evening and night-time economy. Purple Flag is a town and city centre award, similar to the Blue Flag for beaches, which aims to raise the standard and broaden the appeal of town and city centres between the hours of 17:00 & 05:00. Areas awarded the Purple Flag are recognised for providing a vibrant and diverse mix of dining, entertainment and culture while promoting the safety and wellbeing of visitors and local residents.
- 3.2 The Purple Flag award is attributed to the partnership working between Leeds City Council, LeedsBID, BACIL (Business Against Crime In Leeds), Leeds Pubwatch, West Yorkshire Police, Safer Leeds, British Transport Police, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, WYCA (West Yorkshire Combined Authority), Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust, Forward Leeds, Leeds Street Angels, Public Health England, and Visit Leeds.
- 3.3 The Purple Flag is assessed annually. The accreditation addresses 5 key themes: Wellbeing, Movement, Appeal, Policy Envelope and Place. Sub groups have been established to lead on each theme, enabling the progress of actions by October 2017 in line with the renewal date.

3.3.1 Wellbeing:

This theme addresses safety; care; regulation; services; partnership and perceptions, and by implication the sub group considers on street presence.

Members will hear that as well as a review of police resourcing, partnership funding has been secured to allow a year-round evening on street ambassador service that will operate each Friday and Saturday night from 22:00 to 04.30 and 05.30 respectively.

Under the Wellbeing banner, the following training opportunities are also to be made available to the licensed trade:

Safeguarding:

The scope of this training is to include child sexual exploitation (CSE), domestic violence, people trafficking and sexual harassment. This is being developed by key partners including the West Yorkshire Police, Safer Leeds, Children's Services/Leeds Safeguarding Children Board, Entertainment Licensing and BACIL.

The intentions are to create a team of trainers to deliver ENTE training, the teams consisting of police and volunteers. In addition to training sessions there will be an E-Learning Package, and yearly campaigns targeting both staff and customers in the ENTE.

Alcohol and Substances:

Provided by Forward Leeds, this is free training in relation to alcohol and substances and will provide staff in the ENTE with the necessary knowledge, skills and confidence to deal with such matters. The training has been offered to Leeds Pubwatch members across the whole city.

Counter Terrorism

The North East Counter Terrorism Unit in partnership with Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police and BACIL have and continue to provide workshops for the licence and retail trade, including the distribution of information and guidance that is disseminated further via BACIL and Pubwatch.

3.3.2 Movement:

Addresses the choices available to people on arrival, departure, how easily and safety they are able to move around the city centre, looking at public transport options, car parking provision, pedestrian routes, crowd management, the level of information available to users and partnership support through businesses operating in the ENTE

3.3.3 Appeal:

Addresses the choice and presentation of the offer in the city centre across food and drink, pubs and bars, late night venues, early evening activity, public buildings and culture to ensure there is a mix of activity across the ENTE, to attract a wide audience.

3.3.4 Policy Envelope:
Scrutinises the data, strategy, co-ordination, leadership, partnership and community focus across the ENTE.

3.3.5 Place:
Looks at the location, diversity, clarity, animation, design and identity of a place.

3.4 Representatives from the Purple Flag Task Group, including LeedsBID, BACIL, West Yorkshire Police, WYCA and Leeds City Council will be at the meeting to provide Members with a further update.

3.5 Members will recall that in September 2016 welfare representatives of Leeds Beckett University came before Full Council with their deputation concerning sexual harassment within the City's bars and clubs, seeking the Council's support to the provision of consent education and training within the ENTE.

3.6 Members will hear that the Leeds University and Beckett University Student Unions are now working collaboratively with proposals to offer awareness training opportunities to those premises frequented by students.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 There are no implications for consultation and engagement. This report is for information purposes.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 There are no implications for equality and diversity, cohesion and integration.

4.3 Council Priorities and Best Council Plan

4.3.1 The licensing regime contributes to the following Best Council Plan 2015-20 outcomes:

- Improve the quality of life for our residents, particularly for those who are vulnerable or in poverty;
- Be safe and feel safe
- Make it easier for people to do business with us.

4.3.2 The licensing regime is linked to the Best Council Plan objectives:

- Supporting communities and tackling poverty, and
- Becoming a more efficient and enterprising council
- Promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth
- Building a child friendly city

4.4 Resources and value for money

4.4.1 There are no implications for resources and value for money.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 There are no legal implications, and this report is not subject to access to information and call in requirements.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

5 Conclusions

5.1 This report is to provide Members with an overview of the partnership working within the night time economy.

6 Recommendations

6.1 That Licensing Committee considers the information from partner agencies.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 There are no unpublished background documents that relate to this matter.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

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Report of the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration

Report to Licensing Committee

Date: 5th September 2017

Subject: Policing and the Night Time Economy

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

The Committee will receive a presentation from officers of West Yorkshire Police on issues relating to policing and the night time economy in Leeds pertinent to the work of the Licensing Committee and its' Sub Committees

Recommendations

1. The Committee is requested to consider and discuss the information presented by West Yorkshire Police as appropriate.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report is submitted by means of introduction to a presentation from officers of West Yorkshire Police on issues relating to policing and the night time economy in Leeds pertinent to the work of the Licensing Committee and its' Sub Committees. Sergeant Dave Shaw will attend the meeting
- 2.1 The Committee is requested to note that Members may be provided with information that is not normally in the public arena such as information set out in the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules, namely 10.4.1 information relating to an individual;

10.4.3. information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person;

10.4.7 information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

In that event Members would be asked to consider under the Access to Information Procedure Rules if in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

2 Background information

The Committee has previously received presentations from West Yorkshire Police on a six monthly basis and discussed issues relating to the Review hearing system, the use of the Matrix system and the City Centre Cumulative Impact Area and partnership working with licensees

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to receive the presentation from West Yorkshire Police and consider and discuss the contents as appropriate

4 Background Documents¹

None

The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

LICENSING COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18 - LAST UPDATED 25/08/17 (JG)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	Officer	TYPE OF ITEM
Meeting date: 5th September 2017			
Policing and the Night Time Economy	To receive a Presentation from Sergeant Dave Shaw, West Yorkshire Police on the issues of "Policing and the Night Time Economy"	D Shaw	B
Evening and Night Time Economy (6 Month Update)	To receive a report by the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration which provides an update on Evening and Night Time Economy	N. Raper	B
Taxi & Private Hire Licensing Enforcement report	To receive a report by the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration which provides an update on taxi and private hire licensing activity	A White	B
Meeting date: Wednesday 4th October 2017			
Meeting date: 7th November 2017			
Update/ monitoring report on the Victoria Gate Casino	To receive a report by the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration which provides an update / monitoring report on the Victoria Gate Casino	N Raper	B

Key:

RP – Review of existing policy

DP – Development of new policy

PM – Performance management

B – Briefings

SC – Statutory consultation

LICENSING COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18 - LAST UPDATED 25/08/17 (JG)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	Officer	TYPE OF ITEM
Update on Shisha Smoking – Enforcement Activity	To receive a report by the Director of Resources and Housing which provides an up-date on the on-going work to tackle Shisha Smoking	R Turner	B
Meeting date: 5th December 2017			
Meeting date: 9th January 2018			

Key:
 RP – Review of existing policy DP – Development of new policy PM – Performance management B – Briefings SC – Statutory consultation

LICENSING COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18 - LAST UPDATED 25/08/17 (JG)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	Officer	TYPE OF ITEM
Meeting date: 6th February 2018			
LA03 Statement of Licensing Policy Consultation	To receive a report by the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration which sets out the consultation arrangements for the LA03 Statement of Licensing Policy	S Holden	SC
Meeting date: 6th March 2018			
Policing and the Night Time Economy	To receive a Presentation from Sergeant Dave Shaw, West Yorkshire Police on the issues of "Policing and the Night Time Economy"	D Shaw	B
Meeting date: 3rd April 2018			

Key:

RP – Review of existing policy

DP – Development of new policy

PM – Performance management

B – Briefings

SC – Statutory consultation

LICENSING COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18 - LAST UPDATED 25/08/17 (JG)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	Officer	TYPE OF ITEM

Key:
RP – Review of existing policy DP – Development of new policy PM – Performance management B – Briefings SC – Statutory consultation