

## LICENSING AND REGULATORY PANEL

TUESDAY, 4TH SEPTEMBER, 2007

**PRESENT:** Councillor R D Feldman in the Chair

Councillors S Armitage, A Blackburn,  
V Morgan, G Wilkinson and D Wilson

### IN ATTENDANCE

Mr D Broster – Section Head, Taxi & Private Hire Licensing

Mr M DePlacido – Taxi & Private Hire Licensing

Ms K Coldwell – Taxi & Private Hire Licensing

Mr D Bagnall – Taxi & Private Hire Licensing

Mr A Ali – LAPTA

Mr I Zaman – LAPTA

Mr Rauf - Eurocabs

### 12 Late Items

The Chair accepted one Late Item of business onto the agenda for consideration at this meeting; this related to a report on the process to be adopted by the appeals sub group which had been established by Panel on 7 August 2007 and was expected to meet shortly. A copy of the report had been despatched to the Panel and all relevant parties prior to the meeting. (minute 18 refers)

Furthermore the Panel accepted the following documents for consideration:

- Minutes – additional Panel meeting held 7 August 2007 (minute 15b refers)
- Additional statistical information relating to the quarterly report (minute 16 refers)

### 13 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dowson, Dunn and Selby

### 14 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

### 15 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held 3<sup>rd</sup> July and 7<sup>th</sup> August 2007 respectively were submitted for approval.

It was noted that an error had been made with regards to the recording of the members of the newly established appeals sub group. Councillor G Hyde, a former Member of the Panel had attended the previous meeting and had offered to sit as a Member of the Sub Group, and had been included within the proposed membership. Councillor Armitage volunteered to replace Councillor Hyde.

### RESOLVED –

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on Tuesday, 6th November, 2007

- a) That the minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2007 be confirmed as a correct record
- b) That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 August 2007 be confirmed as a correct record subject to an amendment to minute 11c) to read "That the membership of the Appeals Sub Group be Councillors Armitage, Dunn, Feldman and Wilson".

**16 Quarterly Report (April - June 2007) of the Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Section**

The Panel considered the report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) setting out the licensing activity carried out by the Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Section during the April to June quarter 2007.

The Panel noted that a Mercedes wheelchair accessible vehicle had been added to the Council's list of approved wheelchair accessible vehicles during that period following a successful formal inspection by officers and informal inspection by representatives of the disability advisory group.

An additional schedule showing a log of enforcement activity undertaken by officers was tabled at the meeting and the Panel noted the bulk of offences related to instances of private hire drivers being found to be illegally plying for hire

Members received information on the enhanced vehicle inspection team and noted the subsequent number of private hire vehicle suspensions due to the rigorous testing regime.

The Panel welcomed information on the number of cases due to be considered by the Magistrates Court following successful enforcement action undertaken by officers; and the outcomes of recent cases

The Chair, noting the new Panel membership, suggested all Panel members undertake a site visit to the offices of the Taxi and Private Section in order to appreciate the current facilities and extensive service provided by the Section on the purpose built site

**RESOLVED –**

- a) To note the contents of the report
- b) That a site visit be arranged to the Torre Road offices of the Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Section on 23 October 2007

**17 Revised Private Hire Vehicle Conditions and Policy Statements**

The Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) submitted a report setting out proposals to revise the Conditions in relation to Private Hire Vehicle Licences.

It was noted that the Private Hire trade had been consulted on the revised Conditions

**RESOLVED –**

- a) That approval be given to the proposed revised Conditions and that the whole document as presented to Panel be adopted as the Policy and

Conditions of Leeds City Council in respect of Private Hire vehicles. The Policy and Conditions are to be met prior to the grant of a Private Hire vehicle licence and shall be Conditions upon a Private Hire licence when granted

- b) That officers be authorised to use delegated powers to make appropriate changes to the Conditions in the future

**18 Late Item - Hackney Carriage Proprietors Licences Issue - Appeals Process**

Further to minute 11 of the meeting held 7 August 2007, the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) submitted a report setting out the procedures and other related guidance to be followed at hearings of the recently established appeals sub group.

This matter was considered as a late item as the deadline for receipt of appeals was reported as 14 September 2007, and it was expected that a meeting of the appeal sub group would be convened soon after.

**RESOLVED** – That the procedure for the Appeals Sub Group as set out in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.6 of the submitted report be adopted