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Meeting	Gambling, Licensing & Regulatory Committee
Date	19 October 2015
Present	Councillors Douglas (Chair), Boyce (Vice-Chair), Flinders, Gillies, Hayes, Hunter, Looker, Mercer, D Myers, Orrell, Richardson, Shepherd and Taylor
Apologies	Councillors Aspden and Mason

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## 12. **Declarations of Interest**

At this point in the meeting, Members were asked to declare any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests they may have in the business on the agenda. None were declared.

## 13. **Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

## 14. **Public Participation**

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak under the council's public participation scheme.

## 15. **Deregulation Act 2015 - Changes to Taxi Licensing**

Members considered a report which agreed a staged approach to the implementation of the Deregulation Act 2015 in relation to hackney carriage and private hire licensing.

The Licensing Manager presented the report and informed the committee that there were 3 changes that had taken effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015 as follows:

- The introduction of 3 year licences for Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicle drivers.
- The introduction of 5 year licences for Private Hire Operators

- The ability for Private Hire Vehicle Sub-Contracting.

It was the intention to take a staged approach to the changes with the aim of having a full implementation in York by the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 in line with the Council's financial year.

In response to questions from Members' the Licensing Manager advised as follows:

- In relation to sub-contracting it would be possible for an operator in York to sub-contract work to another operator from outside the authority area.
- Potential problems arising from any sub-contracting was at present unknown and the situation would need to be monitored once implemented.
- Enforcement issues would be discussed with neighbouring authorities.
- It was confirmed that the tendering process undertaken by the Council for the transportation of vulnerable children would not be affected.
- Annual checks of driver documentation will still be carried out.
- In relation to licence fees, it was not possible to multiply the current yearly charges by 3 or 5 years so a full review would need to be carried out in relation to the new charges.

Resolved: That Members approved Option 1 of the report as follows:

Agreed to the full implementation of the changes to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers and operators licences to take place on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016.

Reason: To enable the Council to agree fees and policy in relation to the implementation of the changes to hackney carriage and private hire drivers and operator licences.

Councillor Douglas, Chair

[The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 2.25 pm].