



**Notice of a public meeting of
Gambling, Licensing & Regulatory Committee**

- To:** Councillors Aspden (Chair), Boyce, Crisp, Funnell, Horton, King, Looker, McIlveen and Richardson (Vice-Chair)
- Date:** Monday, 16 February 2015
- Time:** 4.30 pm
- Venue:** The George Hudson Board Room - 1st Floor West Offices (F045)

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interest

At this point in the meeting, Members are asked to declare:

- any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests
- any prejudicial interests or
- any disclosable pecuniary interests

which they may have in respect of business on this agenda.

2. Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider excluding the press and public from the meeting during consideration of agenda item 5 on the grounds that the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of an individual(s). This information is classed as exempt under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to information) (Variation) Order 2006.

- 3. Minutes** (Pages 1 - 4)
To approve and sign the minutes of the last meeting held on 20th October 2014.

- 4. Public Participation**
At this point in the meeting members of the public who have registered their wish to speak regarding an item on the agenda or an issue within the Committee's remit can do so. The deadline for registering is **5:00 pm on Friday 13th February 2015** .

Filming or Recording Meetings

Residents are welcome to photograph, film or record Councillors and Officers at all meetings open to the press and public. This includes the use of social media reporting, i.e. tweeting. Anyone wishing to film, record or take photos at any public meeting should contact the Democracy Officer (whose contact details are at the foot of this agenda) in advance of the meeting.

The Council's protocol on Webcasting, Filming & Recording of Meetings ensures that these practices are carried out in a manner both respectful to the conduct of the meeting and all those present. It can be viewed at http://www.york.gov.uk/downloads/download/3130/protocol_for_webcasting_filming_and_recording_of_council_meetings

[As it is likely that the press and public will be excluded from this meeting, please note that the above provisions regarding the filming and recording of meetings will not apply]

- 5. Proprietorship of Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence**
(Pages 5 - 38)
This report asks Members to consider a claim by a driver of a vehicle licensed as a hackney carriage vehicle, that he being the proprietor of the licensed vehicle, is entitled to have his name entered onto the licence.
- 6. Any other business which the Chair considers urgent under the Local Government Act 1972**

Democracy Officer:

Name: Laura Bootland

Contact Details:

- Telephone – (01904) 552062
- E-mail – laura.bootland@york.gov.uk

For more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officer responsible for servicing this meeting:

- Registering to speak
- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports and
- For receiving reports in other formats

Contact details are set out above.

This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

 (01904) 551550

City of York Council

Committee Minutes

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| Meeting | Gambling, Licensing & Regulatory Committee |
| Date | 20 October 2014 |
| Present | Councillors Boyce (Chair), Crisp, Funnell, Horton, King, Looker, McIlveen, Richardson, Taylor, Watt (Vice-Chair) and Watson |
| Apologies | Councillors Alexander, Cuthbertson, Hyman and Orrell |

12. **Declarations of Interest**

Members were asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests which they may have in respect of business on the agenda. Councillor Watt declared a personal interest in agenda item 4 – minute 15 refers (Policy for Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licences and Unmet Demand Survey) as Chair of Skelton Parish Council, which had responded to the consultation.

13. **Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2014 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

14. **Public Participation**

It was reported that there were three registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Mr Jim Kerr, UNITE representative, stated that there was no evidence of unmet demand and therefore he hoped that no additional hackney carriage vehicle licences would be issued. He drew attention to the situation nationally and stated that taxi drivers now spent more time waiting in their vehicles than actually driving. Mr Kerr informed Members that it would be unrealistic to have sufficient provision to meet short term peak demand such as during the Christmas period.

Mr Alan Davies, Chairman of the Local Independent Taxi Association, stated that there was a higher number of hackney carriage vehicles per resident in York than the national average. He stated that he would like to see CCTV installed at ranks and in cabs. Mr Davies informed Members that waiting times were lower than average and that there was no evidence of significant unmet demand.

Mr Pickering gave details of his experiences as a driver. He stated that rising costs and a decline in demand meant that his income was less than the minimum wage and he was having to work increasingly long hours. He thanked Members for their response to previous Halcrow Unmet Demand Surveys and stated that he believed that a satisfactory service was being provided to the public.

15. Policy for Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licences & Unmet Demand Survey

Members considered a report which asked them to consider the findings of a recent unmet demand study carried out within the authority area, relating to the provision of the hackney carriage service, and implementation of a new policy in relation to hackney carriage vehicle licence numbers. The report related to motorised hackney carriages only.

A representative from Halcrow gave a presentation on the survey, including details of the methodology used, responses to the consultation that had taken place and the main findings of the survey.

Members considered the following options:

- Option 1 Apply the policy set out in paragraph 10 of the report
- Option 2 Apply an alternative policy for the release of new hackney carriage vehicle licenses and either:
 - a) Utilise the waiting list by offering the person at the top of the list the opportunity to obtain a licence, in line with the current policy as detailed in paragraph 13 of the report
 - b) Utilise the waiting list but with an alternative criteria
 - c) Do not use the waiting list as a means to release new vehicle licenses, apply an alternative selection method.

Option 3 Deregulate completely

Members noted that the survey had not found any evidence of significant unmet demand, although some Members expressed concern that drivers on the waiting list were unlikely to obtain a hackney carriage vehicle license unless the current policy was changed.

Officers confirmed that they were working with the Police regarding training for drivers on vulnerability/acceptable behaviour. Information was also being sought from other Authorities as to the effectiveness of CCTV cameras in taxis.

Resolved: That option 1 (ie apply the policy set out in paragraph 10 of the report) be approved.

Reason: The unmet demand study has identified that there is no evidence of significant unmet demand.

Chair

[The meeting started at 4.00 pm and finished at 4.45 pm].

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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