



Committee: **Licensing Committee**

Date: **Wednesday 18 January 2023**

Time: **6.30 pm**

Venue: **Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA**

Membership

**Councillor Douglas Webb
(Chairman)**

Councillor Hannah Banfield
Councillor Mike Bishop
Councillor Eddie Reeves
Councillor Katherine Tyson
Councillor Barry Wood

Councillor George Reynolds (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Andrew Beere
Councillor Chris Pruden
Councillor Jason Slaymaker
Councillor Fraser Webster
Councillor Sean Woodcock

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitute Members

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare any interests and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.

3. Petitions and Requests to Address the Meeting

The Chairman to report on any requests to submit petitions or to address the meeting.

4. Urgent Business

The Chairman to advise whether they have agreed to any item of urgent business being admitted to the agenda.

5. Minutes (Pages 5 - 16)

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 7 September 2016, 16 May 2017, 15 May 2018, 14 May 2019, 19 May 2021 and 18 May 2022.

6. Chairman's Announcements

To receive communications from the Chairman.

7. Consultation on Revisions to the Council's Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Policy (Pages 17 - 132)

Report of Assistant Director of Regulatory Services & Community Safety

Purpose of Report

The Council is currently consulting on proposals to amend the Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Policy ('the policy'). This report provides a summary of the background to the proposed changes to the policy and the consultation process being followed. It also outlines the intended timetable for formal decision on any changes to the policy.

The Council's Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Policy must be approved by Full Council. The Licensing Committee is constituted to "deal with all matters which are the responsibility of the Council in relation to hackney carriage and private hire vehicles licensed by the Council". Therefore, it is appropriate that the Licensing Committee should consider any proposed changes to the policy and provide comment for consideration when preparing the final policy to be proposed to Full Council for adoption.

The Council has a statutory duty to ensure the proper administration of taxi licensing legislation in the district. Taxi services are an important part of the local economy and therefore fulfilling this statutory duty contributes to the Council's priority to ensure the district has an enterprising economy with strong and vibrant local centres. The primary purpose of the licensing regime is to promote public safety and therefore the Council's work to licence taxi drivers, vehicles and operators also supports the commitment to work with partners to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour. Further, the proposed revisions to the licensing policy include measures to reduce the carbon emissions of the taxi fleet in support of the council's commitment to protect the environment and to help achieve net zero targets.

Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1.1 Review the proposed changes to the Council's Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Policy, and responses received to date during the public consultation on those proposed changes, and provide comment for consideration in the preparation of the final policy to be proposed to Full Council for adoption.

Councillors are requested to collect any post from their pigeon hole in the Members Room at the end of the meeting.

Information about this Meeting

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence should be notified to democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk or 01295 221534 prior to the start of the meeting.

Declarations of Interest

Members are asked to declare interests at item 2 on the agenda or if arriving after the start of the meeting, at the start of the relevant agenda item.

Local Government and Finance Act 1992 – Budget Setting, Contracts & Supplementary Estimates

Members are reminded that any member who is two months in arrears with Council Tax must declare the fact and may speak but not vote on any decision which involves budget setting, extending or agreeing contracts or incurring expenditure not provided for in the agreed budget for a given year and could affect calculations on the level of Council Tax.

Evacuation Procedure

When the continuous alarm sounds you must evacuate the building by the nearest available fire exit. Members and visitors should proceed to the car park as directed by Democratic Services staff and await further instructions.

Access to Meetings

If you have any special requirements (such as a large print version of these papers or special access facilities) please contact the officer named below, giving as much notice as possible before the meeting.

Mobile Phones

Please ensure that any device is switched to silent operation or switched off.

Queries Regarding this Agenda

Please contact Aaron Hetherington / Matt Swinford, Democratic and Elections
democracy@cherwell-dc.gov.uk, 01295 221534

Yvonne Rees
Chief Executive

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