

**LICENSING BOARD
25 August 2015**

PRESENT: Councillor Andrew Morgan - Chairman, Councillor David Kelsey - Vice-Chairman; Councillors Mark Battistini, Norman Decent, Beverley Dunlop, Susan Phillips, and John Trickett.

The meeting commenced at 9.45 am.

SECTION I - BUSINESS RECOMMENDED TO THE COUNCIL

No items

SECTION II - BUSINESS DECIDED UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

79. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bobbie Dove, Pat Oakley, Anne Rey and Christopher Wakefield.

80. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations made by Members of any disclosable pecuniary interests.

81. PUBLIC ITEMS

There were no public questions or deputation requests for this meeting of the Board.

82. REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE OPERATORS' LICENCES

The Board considered a report by the Licensing Team Manager, circulated at '5'. The report outlined the new measures introduced by the Deregulation Act 2015 and the associated impact on the Council's proposed review of operators' fees in advance of the licence renewal deadline on 30 September 2015.

The Licensing Team Manager introduced the report and requested a deferral of the matter until June 2016. In light of advice provided by the Council's Accountant, it was considered appropriate to defer the consideration of the fees element of the review, to allow for a fuller and more accurate appraisal of the estimated costs. The deferral would also allow for a more measured and timely consultation period with the trade.

In response to Members' questions, officers confirmed that the new legislation allowed for the issue of licences for up to five years, with local flexibility permitted within these five years. Furthermore, the Board were reassured that the recent discussions around child protection in Bournemouth would be addressed as a matter of importance at an upcoming Licensing Board meeting in September 2015.

DECISION MADE:

That the item be deferred for consideration at a Licensing Board meeting in June 2016.

83. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That the press and public be excluded for the following item of business under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs such interest in disclosing the information.

84. REVIEW OF PUBLIC CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE APPLICATION

The Licensing Board considered a report by the Licensing Technician, circulated at '4'. The report sought the Board's consideration of a public carriage driver's licence application subject to a number of allegations. The Licensing Technician introduced the report and explained the events that had led to the review of the public carriage driver's licence application named in the non-public report.



The report included a witness statement from the applicant with admittance of the allegations. The Board was asked to consider what action to take and whether the applicant was a 'fit and proper person' to hold a public carriage driver's licence granted by the Council.

The Board heard verbal evidence from the named driver, who confirmed the withdrawal of the licence application.

DECISION MADE:

- a. That in light of the applicant's decision to withdraw the application, no further action be taken.
- b. That the Licensing Team consider a change in the application process to require medical examination reports to be received directly by the Council from an authorised GP.
- c. That the Licensing Team consider an appropriate review of the Service Unit's Officer Scheme of Delegation to allow for such matters to be dealt with under delegated powers.

The meeting closed at 10.34 am.

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