

Minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Tuesday, 13 June 2017

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs P M Bryant (Chairman)

Councillor Ms S Pankhurst (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs S M Bayford, Miss S M Bell, F Birkett, T M Cartwright, MBE, Mrs T L Ellis, M J Ford, JP, Mrs C Heneghan, L Keeble, A Mandry, Mrs K Mandry, R H Price, JP and Mrs K K Trott

Also Present:



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee held on 11 May 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. **DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Committee received a presentation from the Head of Environmental Health on the Roles, Functions and Responsibilities of the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee. This covered health and safety, alcohol licensing, general licensing/registration, taxi licensing and the Safety Advisory Group.

The Committee also received a presentation from the Head of Democratic Services on the scope of the Elections Service. This included:-

- the responsibility to ensure that all residents within the Borough who are eligible to vote in local government, Parliamentary or European Parliamentary elections and UK Referendums are registered to vote;
- the organisation of all elections and referendums within the Borough on behalf of the appropriate Returning/Counting Officer; and
- the undertaking of periodic reviews of boundary and electoral arrangements within the Borough.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the Head of Democratic Services and the Electoral Services Manager be thanked for all the work that has been done in managing the May 2017 County elections and the June 2017 Parliamentary General Election; and
- (b) that the Head of Environmental Health and the Head of Democratic Services be thanked for their presentations.

7. TAXIS AND WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY

The Committee received a report by the Head of Environmental Health on Taxis and Wheelchair Accessibility.

Councillor Mrs Heneghan left the meeting during this item.

Members discussed and considered in detail whether the wheelchair accessible hackney carriage and private hire vehicles that serve the Borough are meeting the needs of people with disabilities. It was agreed that further evidence should be gathered from relevant parties to ensure that all issues are fully understood.

RESOLVED that, having considered whether the current arrangements for wheelchair accessible vehicles are sufficient, officers be requested to:-

- (a) consult with local disability groups and Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Associations to gain a clearer picture of the issues faced by disabled residents; and
- (b) provide a further report on Taxis and Wheelchair Accessibility for consideration at a future meeting of the Committee.

8. LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Environmental Health on the Committee Work Programme for 2017/18.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) as there are no items of business for the meeting on 11 July 2017, the meeting will be cancelled;
- (b) it be noted that Licensing training will be arranged and delivered on 19 September 2017 prior to the Committee meeting taking place;
- (c) a further report on Taxis and Wheelchair Accessibility be added to the Work Programme for the meeting to be held on 28 November 2017;
- (d) progress on actions arising from the meeting of the Committee held on 21 March 2017, as shown in Appendix A to the report, be noted; and
- (e) subject to (a) and (c) above, the Work Programme for 2017/18, attached as Appendix B to the report, be confirmed.

(The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.35 pm).