

**LICENSING COMMITTEE****14:00 – 15:15****23 March 2015**

Present: Councillors Button (chair), Gayton (vice chair) Ackroyd, Barker, Bogelein, Brociek-Coulton, Gihawi, Jones, Maxwell, Price, Stammers and Woollard.

Apologies: Councillor Henderson

**1. Declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

**2. Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 5 December and 11 December 2014.

**3. Abolition of Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency license paper counterpart**

The licensing manager presented the report.

A presentation was then given by Jon Zoltie, Business Development Manager at Intelligent Data Systems UK Ltd.

In response to a member's question, the licensing manager explained that a £5.75 increase would be applicable on all new Hackney carriage and private hire licensing applications.

Mr Zoltie explained that the most efficient way to know if a license is held by an applicant and whether or not points had been endorsed on the license would be via a company such as his. He added that it is possible for applicants to complete an extensive, time-consuming form, receive a code which is valid for only 48 hours, pass this code to the licensing department and allow the licensing department to make the check.

In response to a members question the licensing manager confirmed that the cost would increase but that cost would be passed on to applicants.

**RESOLVED**, to delegate authority to the head of citywide services to implement an alternative method of checking the information held by the DVLA for hackney

carriage and private hire driver licence applicants and existing hackney carriage and private hire driver licence holders, as detailed in paragraph 9 of the report.

#### **4. Cumulative impact policy**

The licensing manager presented the report, also circulating a plan of the enlarged area along with details proposed by the council's planning service. He explained that Princes Street should be included as per the request within the consultation, adding that the castle would not be included despite it being on the original proposal. He said that the new area provided a clear outline for all involved to follow.

Following a question from a councillor, the licensing manager explained that any request to move the line from the centre of a road (to include both sides of the road) would need to be discussed with the planning department.

Discussion ensued during which it was agreed that since the road in question (regarding including both sides of the road within the plan) had offices on the non-included side of the road, the line had in fact been well-drawn and was acceptable.

**RESOLVED** to recommend council to adopt the special cumulative impact policy as part of the council's statement of licensing policy.

#### **5. License and registration fees**

The licensing manager introduced the report. In response to a members question he confirmed that the rise of 2.5% came from the fees having been reviewed and financial services providing relevant information regarding the correct percentage to apply. He confirmed that the table on page 67 of the report gave a more detailed breakdown, adding that to the rise was mainly around inflation (pension costs, legal services, IT etc.)

**RESOLVED** to approve the fees detailed within appendix A of the report.

#### **6. Safeguarding and licensing**

The licensing manager introduced the report.

**RESOLVED** to approve the recommendations from the task and finish group as endorsed by the cabinet.

#### **7. Standing item – regulatory subcommittee minutes**

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the regulatory subcommittee meetings held on held on 15 December 2014, 9 February 2015 and 9 March 2015.

CHAIR