



### **Licensing and Regulatory Committee**

---

#### **Time and Date**

9.30 am on Tuesday, 15th February, 2022

#### **Place**

Council Chamber - Council House

Please note that in line with current Government and City Council guidelines in relation to Covid, there will be reduced public access to the meeting to manage numbers attending safely. If you wish to attend in person, please contact the Governance Services Officers indicated at the end of the agenda.

---

#### **Public Business**

1. **Apologies**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

3. **Minutes** (Pages 1 - 4)

To agree the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 12 January 2022

4. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

To consider whether to exclude the press and public for the items of private business for the reasons shown in the reports.

5. **Outstanding Issues Report**

There are no outstanding issues to report.

6. **Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved**

#### **Private Business**

**PLEASE NOTE: The first taxi applicant has been requested to attend Committee at 9.30 a.m.**

7. **Applications for the Grant/Suitability to hold Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Drivers' Licences**

Reports of the Director of Street Scene & Regulatory Service on the following:

(Listing Officer: Mick Coggins – tel: 024 7697 1998)

- 7.1 Application for Grant of a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence (Pages 5 - 18)
  - 7.2 Application for Grant of a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence (Pages 19 - 34)
  - 7.3 Application for Re-Grant of a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence (Pages 35 - 44)
8. **Any other items of private business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved**

---

Julie Newman, Director of Law and Governance, Council House, Coventry

Monday, 7 February 2022

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Usha Patel/Carolyn Sinclair,  
Email: [usha.patel@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:usha.patel@coventry.gov.uk)/[carolyn.sinclair@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:carolyn.sinclair@coventry.gov.uk)

Membership: Councillors F Abbott, L Bigham, J Birdi, J Clifford, B Gittins, G Hayre, J Innes, S Keough, R Lakha, G Ridley, R Simpson, R Thay (Deputy Chair), C Thomas (Chair) and S Walsh

### **Public Access**

Please note that in line with current Government and City Council Covid guidelines, there will be limited public access to the meeting to manage numbers attending safely.

Any member of the public who would like to attend the meeting in person is required to contact the officer below in advance of the meeting regarding arrangements for public attendance. A guide to attending public meeting can be found here:  
<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/publicAttendanceMeetings>

**Usha Patel/Carolyn Sinclair**  
**Email: [Usha.Patel@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:Usha.Patel@coventry.gov.uk)/[Carolyn.Sinclair@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:Carolyn.Sinclair@coventry.gov.uk)**

**Coventry City Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Licensing and Regulatory Committee held at 2.00 pm**  
**on Wednesday, 12 January 2022**

Present:

Members: Councillor C Thomas (Chair)  
Councillor F Abbott  
Councillor J Birdi  
Councillor J Clifford  
Councillor B Gittins  
Councillor G Hayre  
Councillor R Lakha  
Councillor R Thay

Employees (by Directorate):

M Coggins, Streetscene and Regulatory Services  
C Coyle, Streetscene and Regulatory Services  
R Hammond, Law and Governance  
A Khan, Streetscene and Regulatory Services  
C Sinclair, Law and Governance

Apologies: Councillor L Bigham, J Innes, S Keough, G Ridley and  
S Walsh

## **Public Business**

### **37. Joe Burns**

Following the recent death of former colleague from Facilities Management, Joe Burns, the Committee paid tribute to Joe and a minute silence was observed.

### **38. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **39. Minutes**

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 9 November 2021 and the Sub-Committee hearing held on 15 November 2021 were signed as true records.

### **40. Exclusion of Press and Public**

**RESOLVED that, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the items of business indicated below on the grounds that those items involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Schedule 12A of that Act, in particular those paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule as indicated:**

<b>Minute No.</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A</b>
44	Review of Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence	1 & 3

#### 41. **Outstanding Issues Report**

There were no outstanding issues.

#### 42. **Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Fee Review 2021 - Taxi Licensing Mini Review - Objections**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Streetscene and Regulatory Services which set out details of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Fee Review and associated objections.

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 provides that the City Council may charge as fees the reasonable cost of administering and enforcing the hackney carriage and private hire licensing function. The fees charged by the Taxi Licensing Office are intended to enable the service to operate on a self-financing basis.

A review of fees was carried out in 2019 and before that in 2015, which involved assessing the resources used for each activity represented by a fee. Any increased costs to taxi licensing since 2019 had been managed within available resources.

The Licensing & Regulatory Committee on the 9 November 2021 approved the proposed fee increases subject to objections. The advertisement publicising the fee changes ran for 28 days together with a consultation sent to all the licensed drivers (1337); hackney carriage vehicle proprietors (536); private hire vehicle proprietors (240) and 28 private hire operators. Many vehicle proprietors will also be licensed drivers.

There were 50 (approx. 2.3%) objections received which could be seen at Appendix B of the report. Most responses received objected to the increased costs based on affordability due to a general decrease in business across the City, increased fuel costs and Covid-19.

Under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the City Council could only charge a level of fees sufficient to cover the reasonable cost of administering and enforcing the hackney carriage and private hire licensing function. The proposed increases were intended to enable the service to operate on a self-financing basis based on the costs of providing the function. The increases had been calculated to ensure that the taxi licensing reserve account could be retained without deficit.

Having considered the objections detailed in the report, the Committee clarified that the Cabinet Member had been made aware of the proposals and instructed officers to ensure that further such reports include confirmation that the Cabinet Member has been apprised.

**RESOLVED** that, having considered objections at Appendix B of the report, the proposed fee changes detailed in Appendix A of the report be approved to commence on 22 January 2022.

**43. Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved**

There were no other items of public business.

**44. Review of Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence**

**RESOLVED** that, having considered the circumstances set out in the report of the Director of Street Scene and Regulatory Services now submitted, the Hackney Carriage Driver's License continue with a written warning.

(Note: The applicant and his representative attended the meeting in support of the application).

**45. Any other items of private business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved**

There were no other items of private business.

(Meeting closed at 4.45 pm)

This page is intentionally left blank

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

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank



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

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

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

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank