

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet Member for City Services
held at 2.30 pm on Wednesday, 3 August 2022

Present:

Members: Councillor P Hetherton (Cabinet Member)

Employees: C Archer, Transportation and Highways
M Coggins, Licensing and Enforcement
R Goodyer, Transportation and Highways
R Parkes, Law and Governance
C Sinclair, Law and Governance

Apologies: Councillor L Bigham and G Lloyd

Public Business

8. Declarations of Interests

9. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 15 June 2022 were agreed and signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

10. Policy Updates - Waiting Restrictions, Disabled Bays and Access Protection Markings Policies

The Cabinet Member for City Services considered a report of the Director of Transportation and Highways following a review and policy development for Waiting & Loading Restrictions, Advisory Disabled Parking Bays & Access Protection Markings.

The report indicated that, to be more cost effective, the proposals were considered in 'batches'. Recently, to try to address the large volume of outstanding requests, the number of waiting restrictions advertised in one review was substantial. However, in doing this, it highlighted a number of issues relating to how requests are dealt with and prioritised. Therefore, a review had been undertaken and a policy developed for dealing with these requests.

As well as waiting restrictions, the City Council also received many requests for access protection markings (also known as H-bar markings) and advisory disabled parking bays, both installed as part of Facilities for the Disabled works. There were approved application criteria for these requests. In addition, practices for their installation had evolved over time due to issues raised and experience gained. More requests are also being received from residents who did not meet the current criteria for an access protection marking, asking to be able to pay for a marking to be installed. Therefore, the existing policy and practices for installing these markings had been reviewed and a new policy developed for these types of requests.

The report set out 3 proposed policy documents, for waiting restriction requests, disabled bays and access protection markings.

The cost of making changes to/introducing new waiting restrictions, installing disabled bays and access protection markings was funded from the Highways Maintenance and Investment Capital Programme budget through the Local Transport Plan.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for City Services

- 1. Approve and adopt the Waiting, Stopping & Loading Restrictions Policy 2022**
- 2. Endorse that the existing Residents Parking Policy remains unchanged**
- 3. Approve and adopt the Advisory Disabled Parking Bay Policy 2022**
- 4. Approve and adopt the Access Protection Marking Policy 2022.**

11. Petitions Determined by Letter and Petitions Deferred Pending Further Investigations

The Cabinet Member for City Services considered a report of the Director of Transportation and Highways in respect of petitions received relating to the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for City Services and how officers proposed to respond to them.

In June 2015, amendments to the Petitions Scheme, which formed part of the Constitution, were approved in order to provide flexibility and streamline current practice. This change had reduced costs and bureaucracy and improved the service to the public.

These amendments allow for a petition to be dealt with or responded to by letter without being formally presented in a report to a Cabinet Member meeting.

In light of this, at the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Public Services on 15 March 2016, it was approved that a summary of those petitions received which were determined by letter, or where decisions are deferred pending further investigations, be reported to subsequent meetings of the Cabinet Member for Public Services (now amended to Cabinet Member for City Services), where appropriate, for monitoring and transparency purposes.

Appendix A of the report set out all petitions received relating to the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for City Services and how officers proposed to respond to them. **RESOLVED** that the Cabinet Member for City Services endorse the actions being taken by officers as set out in Section 2 and Appendix A of the report in response to petitions received.

12. **Fares - Night Time and Bank Holiday Hackney Carriage Fares**

The Cabinet Member for City Services considered a report of the Director of Transportation and Highways detailing the outcome of the consultation on proposals for Hackney Carriage Fares 2022 in respect of night-time & bank holiday rates.

Following a three-week consultation period with the Coventry City Council trade, four proposals of fare increase were considered, and the results were detailed in at Appendix A of the report. Comments by the trade were detailed in Appendix B of the report.

Option B was the Taxi Trade preferred option, with 52.12% of the trade choosing this option as their number one choice. Noting this and acknowledging that a number of the trade had preferred other options, the Cabinet Member agreed to approve option B, with a review of the impact to be brought back in a year's time.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for City Services, having considered the four proposals:

1. **Approve Option B, as detailed in the report, subject to advertising and objections.**
2. **Receive a review report one year after the implementation of Option B.**

13. **Taxi Licensing Matters**

The Cabinet Member for City Services considered a report of the Director of Transportation and Highways which provided information to enable the Cabinet Member for City Services to assess whether there should be changes to Drivers and Vehicles Conditions of Licence. The proposed changes were in respect of (1) card payment machines being registered as a "transport" provider and (2) prohibiting drivers vaping in licensed Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicles.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member for City Services

1. **Authorise amendment to Conditions of Licence for Private Hire Drivers, Private Hire Vehicle Proprietors, Private Hire Pedicab Proprietors and Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietors to ensure that any card payment machines used must be registered as a "transport" provider or other suitable wording dependant on the provider of the card payment machine (proposed changes highlighted in Appendix A of the report).**
2. **Authorise Condition of Licence for Private Hire Drivers, Private Hire Vehicle Proprietors, Private Hire Pedicab Proprietors and Hackney Carriage Vehicle Proprietors to prohibit drivers vaping in licensed Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Vehicles (proposed new condition highlighted in Appendix A).**

14. **Outstanding Issues**

There were no outstanding issues.

15. **Any other items of Public Business**

There were no other items of public business.

(Meeting closed at 2.50 pm)