

Minutes of a meeting of the **LICENSING COMMITTEE** held in the Meeting Room 1, Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding, on Monday, 6 November 2017 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT

A Harrison (Chairman)
T A Carter (Vice-Chairman)

G R Aley
M D Booth
A Casson

M G Chandler
G K Dark
A M Newton

E J Sneath
J Tyrrell
C N Johnson

Apologies for absence were received from or on behalf of Councillors R Clark and J L King.

In attendance: The Licensing and Business Support Officer.

7. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

8. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2017 were signed as a correct record

9. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982 (AS AMENDED BY SECTION 27 OF THE POLICING AND CRIME ACT 2009)**

The Committee considered the report of Executive Manager, People and Public Protection with a recommendation to approve the amendments made to review the 'Sex Establishments and Sexual Venues Policy'. The following points were raised:

- The Policy had been refreshed and renewed with no significant changes.
- The recommendations of low tolerance would remain in the Policy
- No expressions of interest since 2013.
- Legal advice sought and Policy didn't have to go to public consultation because the changes were very minor.

DECISION:

That the Licensing Committee approves the amendments made to review the 'Sex Establishments and sexual Entertainments Venues' Policy.

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10. LICENSING COMMITTEE UPDATE REPORT 2017/18 QUARTER 2

The Licensing and Business Support Manager introduced the quarterly performance report to the committee. The following points were raised:

- The Licensing and Business Support Manager, informed the group that taxi drivers have all been made aware of the requirements under the Equalities Act relating to drivers of designated wheelchair accessible vehicles. They must not refuse to carry the passenger, must not make an additional charge, must take steps to give assistance as required. It is an offence not to comply. Exemption certificates may be issued on certain grounds.
- The question was asked whether all taxis were wheelchair accessible? SHDC Hackney carriages are wheelchair accessible as per our policy.
- How much assistance would the driver be expected to give? Would they have to lift the passenger out of the chair? This would be on a case by case basis. The duty is to give the passenger such mobility assistance as is reasonably required.
- Councillor Harrison asked if there had been any claims of mishandling of the passengers? The Licensing and Business Support Manager informed the group that they were not aware of any in the District.
- Licensing will be working with Lincolnshire County Council to review new driver training. This could include more emphasis on the Equality act duties.
- Councillor Johnson noticed in the report that 44 taxis passed inspection – were they all compliant? Or was this after work had been carried out on the vehicles? The Licensing and Business Support Officer informed the group that they were all compliant possibly subject to minor actions required to bring them into compliance.

DECISION:

That the report be noted.

11. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT.

There were no urgent items.

(The meeting ended at 6.47 pm)

(End of minutes)