

LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING: Tuesday, 16th March 2021

PRESENT: Cllrs. Walford (Chair), Brazil, D. Brown, Field, Finnegan, Haigh,

Hansdot, Lugg, Patel, Tracey and Williams

Officers in Attendance

Head of Place

City Centre Improvement Officer (Licensing Lead)

Senior Lawyer, One Legal

Democratic & Electoral Services Officer

APOLOGIES : Cllrs. Brooker

19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

20. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8th December 2020 were confirmed by the Chair as a correct record.

21. MINUTES OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES

No member indicated that they wished to discuss the content of the exempt minutes. Therefore, it was not necessary to exclude the press and public.

RESOLVED that the exempt minutes of the Licensing and Enforcement subcommittees held on the 16th December 2020 and the 3rd February 2021 were received.

22. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)

There were no public questions.

23. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES, MAXIMUM 3 MINUTES PER PERSON)

There were no petitions or deputations.

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24. CUMULATIVE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Chair read a statement which summarised the contents of the report and the reasoning as to why it was before Committee. He noted that the Licensing team had not received any responses during the 8-week consultation period.

RESOLVED that the Licensing and Enforcement Committee APPROVE the Cumulative Impact Assessment and RECOMMEND that:

(1) Council approve the CIA and that the CIP within the Statement of Licensing Policy 2021 to 2026 is adopted by Council.

And ASK Council to RESOLVE:

(1) To adopt the Cumulative Impact Policy within the Licensing Policy Statement 2021-2026 – Licensing Act 2003.

25. COMMON STANDARDS FOR LICENSING HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The Chair read a report summarising the contents of the report. He noted that the Common set of standards laid out in the report were for the drivers of Hackney Carriage or Private Hire vehicles and not for the vehicles themselves.

Councillor Haigh noted that it was an important report and a step forward in making sure that there were countywide standards, ensuring that there was not an issue where licence holders ascertained a licence in another part of Gloucestershire, where standards for drivers could otherwise be lower and then operated within Gloucester.

The Chair thanked Councillor Haigh for her comments and for setting up a task force originally to look into ensuring that Licensing standards were consistent across Gloucestershire.

Councillor D. Brown noted that it was an excellent piece of work. He asked whether any lessons could be learnt from previous consultations to increase the response rate.

The City Centre Improvement Officer (Licensing Lead) responded by stating that he had spoken to several people in the trade, including drivers who were happy with the common standards and that drivers made him aware if they had any issues.

RESOLVED that the draft Common Standards for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers in Gloucestershire is approved for a 12-week consultation period.

26. QUARTERLY UPDATE

The Chair read a statement summarising the contents of the report.

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RESOLVED that the Licensing and Enforcement Committee note the contents of the report.

27. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 15th June 2021 at 6:30pm.

Time of commencement: 6.30 pm hours Time of conclusion: 6.46 pm hours

Chair