



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 22 January 2019 at 5.00 pm at the Council Chamber, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale, Tonypany, CF40 2XX.

County Borough Councillors - Licensing Committee Members in attendance:-

Councillor A Fox (Chair)

Councillor E Webster Councillor W Lewis
Councillor S Morgans Councillor A Cox
Councillor L Jones Councillor P Howe

Officers in attendance:-

Ms L Davies, Head of Public Protection
Mr G Black, Community Safety and Licensing Manager
Mr P Nicholls, Head of Legal - Litigation, Planning & Environment, Community & Children's Services
Mr M Owen, Assistant Licensing Manager

39 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors S. Bradwick, S. Powderhill, D. Williams and T. Williams.

40 Declaration of Interest

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

41 Human Rights Act and Crime and Disorder Act

It was **RESOLVED** to note that when Members determine the licensing and registration matters before them, they have a duty not to act in a manner that is incompatible with the convention on Human Rights and the Crime and Disorder Act.

42 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 4th December, 2018 as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

43 To consider the Licences & Registrations issued under the provision of Delegated Powers for the period: 19.11.18 to 06.01.19

The Head of Public Protection presented Members with details of licences and registrations issued during the period 19th November, 2018 and 6th January, 2019 and it was **RESOLVED** to note the content of the report.

44 To consider passing the following Resolution:

It was **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 13 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

45 Enforcement Summary (Including Appeal/Prosecution Data) for the period: 24.11.18 and 11.01.19

The Head of Public Protection provided Members with the report outlining the most recent enforcement activity, including any prosecution and appeals updates for the period 24th November, 2018 and 11th January, 2019.

Following consideration of the report, the Committee **RESOLVED** to note its content.

46 Summary of Licences issued under provision of Delegated Authority for the period: 19.11.18 to 06.01.19

The Head of Public Protection provided Members with the report outlining the most recent enforcement activity, including any prosecution and appeals updates for the period 19th November, 2018 and 6th January, 2019.

Following consideration of the report, the Committee **RESOLVED** to note its content.

47 Welsh Government Consultation on Improving Public Transport

The Head of Public Protection advised Members of the Welsh Government's active consultation on proposals to legislate for reforming the planning and delivery of local bus services and licensing of taxis and private hire vehicles.

The Community Safety & Licensing Manager guided Members through Part 2 of the consultation document which related to Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles and advised of the Welsh Government's proposals to tackle issues highlighted:

- 1. National Standards** – The Welsh Government is proposing to set national standards for taxi and private hire licensing. All taxi and PHVs in Wales would have to meet these standards in order to obtain a licence. These standards would subsequently be set by regulations and so there will be further consultation on their content.
- 2. Enforcement** – The Welsh Government is proposing to allow a licensing authority to take enforcement action against any vehicle operating in its area.
- 3. Information Sharing** – The Welsh Government is proposing to allow the creation of a mechanism by which relevant information can be shared, for the purpose of safeguarding
- 4. Joint Transport Authority** – The Welsh Government is proposing to redirect all of the existing taxi and PHV licensing functions away from local authorities and into a national licensing authority, a JTA. This would include licensing, fee and fare setting, enforcement, hearing appeals arising from

licensing decisions, prosecutions and deciding matters such as whether to apply quantity controls to taxis.

Members were given the opportunity to ask any questions and to provide comment in respect of the above-mentioned proposals.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the consultation document be sent to Members of the Licensing Committee in order for the Members to provide any further comments by 27th March, 2019.

48 Announcement of the Chair

Before the meeting came to a close, the Chair and Committee Members took the opportunity to send well wishes to Councillor D. Williams, who was absent due to health issues.

This meeting closed at 5.45 pm

**CLLR A FOX
CHAIR.**