



To be submitted to the Council at its meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022

## **LICENSING AND COMMUNITY PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

**9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 5.00 p.m.**

### **Present:**

Councillor Harness (in the Chair)

Councillors Beasant, Cairns, Callison, Dawkins, Hasthorpe (substitute for Westcott)  
Rodwell and Silvester (substitute for K. Swinburn).

### **Officers in attendance:**

- Tracey Cook (Senior Licensing Enforcement Officer)
- Sophie Pickerden (Committee Support Officer)
- Eve Richardson-Smith (Deputy Monitoring Officer)
- Paul Windley (Democratic and Scrutiny Team Manager)

### **L.8 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence for this meeting were received from Councillors Green, K. Swinburn and Westcott.

### **L.9 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received in respect of any item on the agenda for this meeting.

### **L.10 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Licensing and Community Protection Committee meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

### **L.11 HACKNEY CARRIAGE SUB COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The Committee considered a report from the Monitoring Officer on membership of the Hackney Carriage Sub Committee.

RESOLVED –

1. That Councillor Dawkins' replacement of Councillor Westcott as a member of the Hackney Carriage Sub Committee be ratified.
2. That Councillor Westcott be re-appointed as a member of the Hackney Carriage Sub Committee to fill the vacant seat caused by the passing of Councillor Woodward.

In accordance with legislative requirement, for the following item the Committee was sitting as the '**Community Protection Committee.**'

## **L.12 REQUEST TO RAISE HACKNEY CARRIAGE TARIFF**

The committee considered a report from the Executive Director of Environment, Economy and Resources proposing an increase in North East Lincolnshire Council's Hackney Carriage Motorised Vehicles Table of Fares.

Ms Cook introduced the report and referred the committee to additional representations that had been received, including a new request for the introduction of a bus tariff. She added that further information was being sought in relation to this request. It was noted that the last tariff review was undertaken in 2018.

Mr Somir, Chairman of the Drivers Equality Association, was invited to address the committee to explain the reasoning behind the request for a bus tariff. He clarified that the bus tariff would only apply for more than four passengers and between 10pm and 6am. He reported issues with people grouping together to save fares, while some larger groups were having to use two vehicles thus doubling the cost. Increased motoring costs were also creating pressures.

The committee took the opportunity to ask questions of Mr Somir as well as Mr Broadbent, who attended on behalf of the hackney carriage drivers who had submitted the request to increase the table of fares.

With regard to the bus tariff, the committee raised concerns about how its introduction would be communicated so that people would know when it was being applied. The committee were also concerned about the extent of the proposed tariff and were interested in what other authorities did.

Councillor Hasthorpe proposed that the increase in North East Lincolnshire Council's Hackney Carriage Motorised Vehicles Table of Fares (Tariff) as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved. This

was seconded by Councillor Cairns and, upon a vote, agreed by the committee.

Councillor Silvester proposed that the potential introduction of a bus tariff be deferred to a future meeting of this committee, to allow further information to be gathered. This was seconded by Councillor Hasthorpe and agreed unanimously by the committee. Mr Somir was requested to re-submit the bus tariff proposal, providing further clarification and detail in response to the points raised at this meeting.

RESOLVED –

1. That North East Lincolnshire Council's Hackney Carriage Motorised Vehicles Table of Fares (Tariff), as set out in Appendix 1 of the report now submitted and in accordance with the request from the trade, be approved.
2. That, subject to statutory public notice, any objections received pursuant to advertisement be delegated and considered by the Executive Director of Environment, Economy and Resources, in consultation with the Chair of the Licensing and Community Protection Committee.
3. That the proposed introduction of a bus tariff be deferred to a future meeting of this committee, to allow further information to be gathered.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 5.43 p.m.