

LICENSING COMMITTEE

12th July 2022

Present – Councillors Ogden (Vice-Chairman), Heseltine, Ireton Jaquin, Myers, Solloway and Whitaker.

Officers – Solicitor to the Council and Deputy Monitoring Officer, Licensing Manager, Assistant Licensing Officer and Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officer.

Apologies for absence was received from Councillors Moorby and Mulligan.

Start: 6.40pm

Finish: 7.26pm

The minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 12th May 2022 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Declarations of Interests – None.

Minutes for Report

LIC.260

WORK PROGRAMME 2022/2023

The Licensing Manager submitted a report asking Members to consider and set the work programme for the 2022/2023 municipal year.

It was customary for the Committee at its first meeting of the municipal year to set its own annual work programme. That enabled the Committee to take a structured approach and still have flexibility to deal with any issues arising during the year.

The report summarised the work of the Committee during 2021/2022 and whilst most of the work had been completed, there was still a review outstanding on the Council's window tint policy. The review had been delayed due to a request from the taxi trade to review the Table of Fares.

Members were asked to agree to a review of the window tint policy during 2022/2023 but due to local government reorganisation in North Yorkshire the Licensing Manager recommended that no other items should be added to the work programme unless any unscheduled items were needed to be dealt with by the Committee.

Instead, the focus would be on proactive enforcement of licence holders. The licensing team would carry out more inspections of premises licensed under the Licensing Act and Gambling Act and there would be more taxi rank inspections working alongside North Yorkshire Police road traffic officers.

During the ensuing debate, Members discussed the new licensing arrangements that would be required as a result of LGR. It was requested that a progress update on licensing matters in the context of LGR was presented to the next Committee. Details of window tint policies (if any) across North Yorkshire councils would be provided to Members so that they could consider further whether it would be beneficial to progress a review and undertake the statutory consultations. Members noted that, by statute, there had to be one Committee for the whole of the new Council in respect of premises licences (liquor) but that taxi licensing matters could be delegated to Area Committees.

The Solicitor to the Council conveyed to the Committee that a Corporate Governance work stream was looking at all statutory policies needed to be in place for day one to ensure the new authority was operating safely and legally. The remainder of the policies would be categorised in a work programme for review and harmonisation in the future.

Resolved – (1) That, the work of the Licensing Committee during 2021/2022 is noted.

(2) That, the work programme for 2022/2023 as set out in the report now submitted is agreed.

LIC.261

OVERVIEW OF LICENSING SERVICES

The Licensing Manager submitted a report providing Members with an overview of the work of the licensing team during 2021/2022, including enforcement and compliance monitoring.

The licensing service was responsible for dealing with a variety of licensing regimes including taxis, premises licensing under the Licensing Act 2003, gambling, pavement licensing and charitable collections. The appendices to the report set out details of the types of licence applications made and provided comparisons with previous years.

The Licensing Manager's report also presented to Members, a proposal for enforcement and compliance monitoring for the remainder of the municipal year.

Resolved – (1) That, the report is noted.

(2) That, the draft licensing compliance monitoring and enforcement plan for 2022/2023 is approved and the Licensing Manager is authorised, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, to make minor amendments to the plan.

LIC.262

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Licensing Manager verbally reported to Members that a successful evening enforcement operation had been carried out in conjunction with North Yorkshire Police regarding Craven licenced taxi vehicles as well as those from neighbouring authorities that were in the District at the time of the operation. The majority of vehicles were in compliance with Craven's Taxi Licensing Policy.

LIC.263

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 4th October 2022 at 6.30pm.

Chairman.