

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 11 June 2019

**Present: Councillor Backhouse (Chairman)
Councillors Woodward (Vice-Chairman), Atkins, Mrs Cobbold, Ellis*, Fairweather,
Funnell, Hill, Lidstone, Thomson and Williams**

Officers in Attendance: Sharon Degiorgio (Senior Licensing Officer), Robin Harris (Senior Lawyer (Contentious)), Gary Stevenson (Head of Housing, Health and Environment) and Cheryl Clark (Democratic Services Officer)

Other Members in Attendance: *As a recent appointee to the Committee, who had not yet completed mandatory Licensing training, Councillor Ellis was in attendance only as an observer.

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

LC1/19 The Chairman opened the meeting, introduced Committee members and officers in attendance, and outlined procedural matters of the meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

LC2/19 Apologies for absence were noted from Councillors Noakes, Podbury, Pope and Thomson.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

LC3/19 No declarations of interest were made.

NOTIFICATION OF VISITING MEMBERS WISHING TO SPEAK (IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 18):

LC4/19 There were no visiting members who had registered to speak.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 5 MARCH 2019

LC5/19 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the previous meeting dated 5 March 2019 be approved as a correct.

INDEPENDENT HACKNEY CARRIAGE DEMAND SURVEY

LC6/19 Mrs Degiorgio, Senior Licensing Officer, introduced and summarised the report, which explained that a contract had been awarded to undertake an independent survey to ascertain whether there was any unmet demand for Hackney Carriage vehicle services in the Borough. The conclusions of the survey would be reported to a future meeting of the Licensing Committee.

As part of the discussions, members had the opportunity to ask questions. It was ascertained that this was the first time that the survey had been jointly commissioned with Maidstone Borough Council and it was anticipated it would provide an overall saving to both authorities.

RESOLVED – That the award of the Independent Hackney Carriage Demand Survey Contract, which was let in conjunction with Maidstone Borough

Council Licensing Service, be noted.

FILM CLASSIFICATION POLICY

LC7/19 Mrs Degiorgio, Senior Licensing Officer, introduced and summarised the report, which explained that there was a requirement for the public exhibition of all films on licensed premises to be either classified by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) or authorised by the Licensing Authority under the powers of the Licensing Act 2003.

The authorisation for the classification of films was delegated to the Head of Housing, Health & Environment and this report included details of the fees, policy and procedures to provide a framework for consistent decision making.

RESOLVED –

1. That a draft Policy for adoption regarding the classification of Films by the Council be approved.
2. That the level of fee for classification of a film as set out within the draft Policy (subject to exemptions) be approved.

URGENT BUSINESS:

LC8/19 There was no urgent business for consideration.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

LC9/19 **RESOLVED** - That the next meeting take place on Tuesday 17 September 2019, at 6pm.

NOTE: The meeting concluded at 6:15pm