

LICENSING COMMITTEE

At a Special Meeting of the Licensing Committee held in the Council Chamber, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Wednesday, 6 March 2019 at 10.05 a.m.

Present: Councillors Jim Brown, Ian Dickson, Jonathan McColl, Marie McNair, Lawrence O'Neill and Brian Walker.

Attending: Raymond Lynch, Section Head (Licensing); Robert Mackie, Senior Officer (Licensing Services); Lawrence Knighton, Licensing Standards Officer and Nuala Borthwick, Committee Officer.

Apologies: Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Jim Finn and John Mooney.

Councillor Jonathan McColl in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in the item of business on the agenda.

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 REVIEW OF TAXI FARES AND CHARGES CLYDEBANK TAXI LICENSING ZONE

A report was submitted by the Strategic Lead – Regulatory concerning a proposed review of fares and charges applicable to taxis operating within the Clydebank Taxi Licensing Zone.

Having heard the Section Head (Licensing), it was noted:-

- (a) that in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, licensing authorities must fix scales for taxi fares and related charges within 18 months from the date on which the scales came into effect;
- (b) that the fares and charges which were applicable to taxis operating within Clydebank Taxi Licensing Zone have been in effect since 21 September 2017 and were detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (c)/

- (c) that representations had been received from Mr Radcliffe, Mr Gallacher, Ms Townsley and Mr MacLeod stating their respective objections to the proposed fare chart and a petition had been submitted by Mr Murray objecting to the proposed fare chart and supporting a 20p increase to the flag fall and no other changes; and
- (d) that in view of their respective representations Mr Gallacher, Mr Murray, Mr MacLeod, Mr Radcliffe and Ms Townsley had been invited to the meeting in order to speak to their objections and were in attendance.

The Committee then heard from the Senior Officer (Licensing Services) in summary of the report outlining the previous decision of the Committee, the impact of the proposed fare chart as advertised in the 9 January 2019 edition of the Clydebank Post and the steps which have to be taken to conclude the fare review.

At the invitation of the Chair, Councillor McColl, the Committee then heard from Mr MacLeod in relation to his representation and in answer to Members' questions. Thereafter the Committee heard from Mr Radcliffe, Mr Gallacher, Ms Townsley and Mr Murray in relation to their respective representations.

Thereafter, the Committee unanimously agreed the undernoted motion by Councillor McColl:-

Having considered the representations from the trade, Committee agrees to implement a new fare structure with an increase on flag fall of 20p and including the wording at 3.13 on page 8 of the papers to allow drivers to account for charges for waiting at Glasgow Airport.

Furthermore, it is clear that there is no appetite among the trade or elected members of the committee to move towards a single zone and therefore committee will no longer require a report from officers on this issue.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

The Committee agreed to suspend Standing Order 20 in order to rescind the decision from the meeting of Licensing Committee held on Wednesday, 5 December 2018 that a detailed report would be provided to a future meeting providing information on the possible amalgamation of the Clydebank and Dumbarton and Vale of Leven Taxi Licensing Zones.

The meeting closed at 10.46 a.m.