

**Medway Council**  
**Meeting of Licensing Sub-Committee**  
**Friday, 13 October 2023**  
**2.44pm to 3.29pm**

**Record of the meeting**

**Subject to approval as an accurate record at the next meeting of this committee**

- Present:** Councillors: McDonald (Chairperson), Browne (Vice-Chairperson), Brake, Fearn, Kemp and Peake
- Substitutes:** Councillors:  
Jones
- In Attendance:** Nicola Couchman, Democratic Services Officer  
Mandy Francis, Licensing Manager  
Katie Honeywood, Licensing Officer  
Venky Krishnan, Prosecutions, Litigation and Licensing Lawyer

**291 Apologies for absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mark Prenter.

**292 Record of meeting**

The record of the meeting held on 17 July 2023 was agreed and signed by the Chairperson.

**293 Urgent matters by reason of special circumstances**

There were none.

**294 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests**

Disclosable pecuniary interests

There were none.

Other significant interests (OSIs)

There were none.

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### Other interests

There were none.

## **295 Variation to Hackney Carriage Tariffs for Christmas 2023/New Year 2024**

### **Discussion:**

The Licensing Manager presented a report requesting a variation to Hackney Carriage Tariffs for Christmas 2023/New Year 2024.

The Licensing Manager explained that the Medway Licensed Taxi Drivers Association (MLTDA) submitted annual Christmas/New Year tariff variations. Prior to their submission they circulated their proposal to their members via a newsletter, which invited comments, suggestions, or amendments. They confirmed no responses or objections were received and therefore they submitted the proposed variation (attached at Appendix A) to Licensing on 15 September 2023.

The Licensing Manager advised the Sub-Committee that there were cost and consultation period implications associated with any request for varying the tariff. It would therefore be appropriate for the Council to agree to set the tariff prior to consultation, negating the need for a further Sub-Committee to determine a post consultation report should no objections be received.

### **Decision:**

- a) The Sub-Committee agreed to set the tariffs for the Christmas 2023/New Year 2024 as proposed by the Medway Licensed Taxi Drivers Association at Appendix A and agreed for officers to advertise in accordance with legislation and circulate to the taxi trade for comments for a period of 14 days.
- b) The Sub-Committee agreed that if no objections are received within the 14 day notice period, or if all objections made are withdrawn, the variation will come into operation on the date of the expiration of the 14 day notice period or the date of withdrawal of the objection(s), whichever is the later.

## **296 Exclusion of the press and public**

### **Decision:**

The Sub-Committee agreed to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of agenda items 7 and 8 because consideration of this matter in public would disclose information falling within paragraphs 1, 2 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as specified in agenda item 5 (Exclusion of press and public) and, in all the circumstances of

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the case, the Sub-Committee considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

### **297 Appeal against penalty points issued and review of Hackney Carriage Driver Licence**

The Licensing Sub-Committee was to consider an appeal against penalty points issued and a review of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence and Mr M and his Legal representative attended the meeting for this purpose. However, as the required interpreter did not attend as scheduled, the Sub-Committee agreed to defer the item to a later date.

### **298 Appeal against revocation of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Licence**

Due to the unavailability of the Licensing Officer at short notice for this appeal this item was deferred to a later date.

### **Chairperson**

**Date:**

**Nicola Couchman, Democratic Services Officer**

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