# MINUTES ENVIRONMENT AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

# **Tuesday 9 January 2024**

Councillor Alison Hunt (Chair)

Present: Councillor Marje Paling Councillor Sue Pickering

Councillor Boyd Elliott Councillor Alex Scroggie
Councillor Rachael Ellis Councillor Martin Smith

Councillor Des Gibbons Councillor Clive Towsey-Hinton

Councillor Julie Najuk Councillor Paul Wilkinson

Absent:

Officers in J Brough, L Chaplin, B Hopewell, A Hutchinson, K Nealon and

Attendance: R Towlson

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS.

None.

TO APPROVE, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 31 OCTOBER.

## **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

None.

4 NATIONAL REGISTER OF TAXI LICENCE REFUSALS, REVOCATIONS AND SUSPENSIONS (NR3S)

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Environment, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, informing Members of the legal position regarding the use of the NR3S register (the 'Register'), pursuant to the Taxis and Private Hire Vehicle (Safeguarding and Road Safety) Act 2022. The report also sought approval to input into the Register retrospective, qualifying decisions made by the Council after consideration of the NAFN (National Anti-Fraud Network) best practice advice.

## **RESOLVED to:**

1) Note the legal position regarding the use of NR3S register;

- Authorise officers to write to all licence holders current and historic where decisions have been made regarding their hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers licences that merit inclusion on the register;
- Consider any responses to the letters, in consultation between the Head of Environment and Chair of Environment and Licensing Committee, to decide if it is fair and appropriate in each individual case to include that data on the register;
- 4) Following the 28 day response period to the above letters, authorise officers to arrange the bulk upload of historic data for the previous 5 years to the register in accordance with the procedural advice from NAFN; and
- 5) Amend the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver Licence Conditions to state that if the licence holder is informed that they have been included in the NAFN register, been subject to disciplinary proceedings, been suspended or revoked by another Authority with which they hold a licence then they must notify the Council, in writing, within 48 hours, preferably by email.

# 5 AMENDMENTS TO EQUALITY ACT 2010 FOLLOWING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE TAXI & PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES (DISABLED PERSONS) ACT 2022

The Chair moved to defer this item to the next available committee to allow officers time to consider representations made by a member of the trade and amalgamating the policy with the Gedling Borough Council's Statement of Policy and Guidelines for the Licensing of Hackney Carriage Drivers, Private Hire Drivers and Operators.

#### RESOLVED:

To defer the item to the next available committee.

#### 6 ANY OTHER ITEM WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT.

None.

## 7 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That, the Members being satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the ensuing reports on the grounds that the report involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

# 8 CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCE OF JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE - MTAK

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Environment, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, regarding a change of circumstances following information received about the holder of a Joint Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire Driver's Licence.

MTAK attended the meeting and addressed the Committee.

In making the decision the Committee applied the Council's approved Policy and Guidelines.

#### **RESOLVED:**

To revoke the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver's Licence held by MTAK, giving MTAK 21 days to surrender the licence.

MTAK was advised of the reasons for the decision and of the right to appeal against the decision of the Committee.

The meeting finished at 7.20 pm

Signed by Chair: Date: