

At a meeting of the Licensing Committee held in Council Chamber - Allerdale House, Workington on Monday 5 February 2018 at 10.00 am

Members

Councillor Angela Kendall (Chair)
Councillor Len Davies
Councillor Peter Kendall
Councillor Bill Pegram

Councillor Christine Smith (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Hilary Harrington
Councillor Jacqueline Mounsey

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tony Annison, Councillor Malcolm Grainger, Councillor Frank Johnston, Councillor Billy Miskelly, Councillor Ron Munby, Councillor Stephen Stoddart, Councillor Janice Wood and Councillor Martin Wood

Staff Present

G Collinson, D Devine, D Fletcher, J Morgan and R Wilkinson

Also Present

J Ellis (Executive Member: Governance and People Resources)

326. Minutes

The minutes of the Licensing Committee meetings held on 16 November 2017 and 28 November 2017 and the minutes of the Licensing Panel meeting held on 6 December 2017 were signed as correct records.

327. Declaration of Interests

None declared.

328. Questions

None received.

329. Review of Application Criteria for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire

The Senior Licensing and Compliance Officer submitted a report which sought the Licensing Committee to consider the implementation of additional criteria to establish whether applicants for hackney carriage and private hire drivers' licences were fit and proper by:

- Commencing the procurement of a new driving assessment including the launch of a pilot scheme for a trial period of 6 months.
- Considering whether to commence a consultation with the trade and other parties determined as relevant regarding the introduction of a knowledge test.

- Implementing an intended use policy.
- Scoping out the work and cost associated with conducting an unmet demand survey to establish whether the number of hackney carriage vehicle licences issued should be limited.

Members agreed with the recommendations with the exception of the scoping work around limiting the number of hackney carriage vehicle licenses. They considered this work unnecessary.

P Kendall moved that the recommendations in the report be agreed, with the exception of scoping out the work and cost associated with undertaking an unmet demand survey. This was seconded by Councillor J Mounsey.

A vote was taken on the motion. The vote in favour was unanimous. The motion was carried.

Agreed

1. To commence the procurement of a new driving assessment immediately with an initial pilot period of six months for the following:
 - a) All applicants for the grant of a new hackney carriage or private hire drivers licence to be passed prior to grant of licence; and
 - b) All licence holders obtaining a licence since the suspension of the DVSA taxi assessment as per the minutes of the meeting of 29 September 2016 i.e. "All applicants for the grant of a new hackney carriage or private hire driver's licence must pass the required assessment to be selected in due course b Allerdale Borough Council within six months of the implementation date of the new assessment. Any licensed drivers appearing before the Licensing Panel with repeated traffic offences may be required to pass the relevant assessment selected.

Exemptions applicable to both a) and b) above if applicant fulfils the following criteria:

- a) Occupation as a Driving instructor;
- b) Occupation as Driving examiner;
- c) Persons holding a driving licence with the following categories entitling them to drive passenger carrying vehicles e.g. buses and coaches:

Category D - Entitlement to drive any bus with more than 8 passenger seats (with a trailer up to 750kg). (Note this does not include category D1)

Category D+E - Entitlement to drive D category vehicles with a trailer over 750kg

Both of these category holders must complete a Driver Certificate of Professional Competence. They must hold a Driver Qualification Card

which is valid for 5 years and is renewable subject to evidence that 35 hours of approved training courses has been completed. This is managed by the Driving Standards Agency.

D1 - Minibuses - Vehicles with no more than 16 passenger seats in addition to the driver and with a maximum length not exceeding 8 metres with a trailer up to 750kg.

D1+E Minibuses with trailers - Vehicles with no more than 16 passenger seats in addition to the driver and with a maximum length not exceeding 8 metres with a trailer over 750 kg, provided that the MAM of the combination formed does not exceed 12,000kg.

Note: For categories D1 and D1+E each applicant must be considered on an individual basis to ensure they fulfil all the criteria as some drivers will have the category on their DVSA licence as an acquired right and will not have taken the test or continuing driver competency.

2. To approve a consultation to seek views on the introduction of a knowledge test with the hackney and private hire trade and other relevant parties the Committee feels appropriate.
3. To implement an intended use policy.

The meeting closed at 10.50 am