

## **SPEAKERS PANEL (LICENSING)**

**Tuesday, 20 September 2016**

**Commenced:** 10.00 am

**Terminated:** 10.50 am

**Present:** Councillors Bray (Chair), Reid (Deputy Chair), Buglass, Fowler, Kinsey, D Lane, Sidebottom, F Travis, Newton, Wild and Sharif

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillors Beeley and Jackson

### **10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **11. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Speakers Panel (Licensing) meeting held on 2 August 2016 were approved and signed as a correct record.

### **12. CONSULTATION ON POLICY AND CONDITIONS RELATING TO PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY DRIVERS AND VEHICLES**

The Licensing Manager provided a verbal update to the Panel on the current consultation for private hire and hackney vehicles policies and conditions review. A full report on the outcome of the consultation would be presented at a future meeting. The Panel were also provided with a list of taxi driver training dates, which would be delivered by external trainers, and were invited to observe any of the sessions.

The Licensing Manager provided the Panel with copies of the consultation document and highlighted particular questions contained within, including questions relating to raising the lower age limit of vehicles from 5 years to 8 years, reviewing the age of replacement vehicles following an accident and introducing a wider range of vehicles to be used as hackney carriages.

Panel Members commented that expanding the fleet of hackney carriages would be beneficial to wheelchair users and introducing vehicles that had rear loading access would also be safer.

Clarity was sought and provided on the age policy of vehicles. It was confirmed that the current age limit placed on new vehicles entering the fleet instilled confidence in the history, servicing and mileage of the vehicles.

The Licensing Manager also outlined questions from the consultation document relating to extending the acceptable condition policy, the introduction of CCTV in licensed vehicles and the introduction of a Greater Manchester wide policy and set of guidelines for the application of the 'fit and proper' test for licensed drivers and operators. Panel Members were provided with copies of the document.

#### **RESOLVED:**

**That the "Policy and Guidelines relating to the Application of the 'Fit and Proper Test' to Licensed Drivers and Operators" document and the consultation process be noted.**

**13. URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items.

**CHAIR**