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LICENSING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, 22 November 2022

PRESENT – Councillors, Councillor Iftakhar Hussain (Chair), Imtiaz, Casey, Taylor, Fazal, Hardman, Raja and Patel.

OFFICERS – Julie Fisher (Legal/Solicitor), Denise Andrews (Business Compliance and Licensing Manager) and Tayyab Mulla (Governance Officer)

RESOLUTIONS

6 Welcome & Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

Apologies were received from Councillors S Brookfield, J Floyd and D Gee.

7 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED – The Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 18th October 2022 were approved as a correct record

8 Declaration of Interest

The Chair asked all members if they needed to declare any interest. Following advise the Legal Representation Councillour Altaf Patel declared an intrest in Agenda Item Number 9 and did not partake in any discussions on the report.

9 Application for an increase in hackney carriage fares

Denise Andrews presented a report to Members for an increase in Hackney Carriage Fares. The purpose of the report was for Members to consider a request from the hackney carriage trade for an increase in hackney carriage fares. The report provided a table which informed Members of the proposed fares in comparison to the existing fares.

The application for increase in hackney carriage fares was a policy matter that needed to be considered by the Executive Member.

The Licensing Committee needed to consider the fare increase, and if supported would need to recommend the request being advertised.

Members were advised that increases in fares were only triggered by requests made from the trade. The last increase was in 2019 and the trade had borne the increases in fuel prices and overheads during this period.

Currently Blackburn with Darwen fares ranked 243 out of 345 listed authorities. The fare for a 2 mile journey on Tariff 1 was currently £6.30.

Where authorities had changed fares in 2022, for a 2 mile journey on Tariff 1 the fares ranged from £4.90 to £13.20. The proposal for Blackburn with Darwen is £6.77 for the 2 mile journey, which would be 7.5% increase.

The proposal was to also remove the increase of fare to Tariff 2 for Sundays and Bank Holidays (with the exception of Christmas and New year).

Members were advised that there are no financial implications for the Council apart from the fee for the advert. Users of hackney carriages would incur an increase in the cost of each journey undertaken.

RESOLVED - That the report to be agreed and recommended to the Executive Member.

10 Minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committees

The Committee received the proceedings of the following Sub Committees:

General Licensing Sub Committee held on 11th October 2022

Licensing Act 2003 Sub-Committee held on 25th October 2022

RESOLVED – That the proceedings of the Sub Committees as outlined above were approved as a correct record and were duly signed by the Chair.

Signed:

Date:

Chair of the meeting
at which the minutes were confirmed