

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Monday, 15 February 2021 (6:15 pm – 6:50 pm)

PRESENT:

Councillor Clarke (Chair); Councillors House, Airey, Corben, Couldrey, Groves, Tyson-Payne, Atkinson and Parker-Jones

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RESOLVED ITEMS (SUBJECT TO QUESTIONS ONLY)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to items of business on the agenda.

2. MINUTES

**RESOLVED -**

**That the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.**

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation on this occasion.

4. VEHICLE AGE POLICY TEMPORARY RELAXATION DUE TO COVID-19

The Senior Licensing Officer introduced the report, which proposed a relaxation on the vehicle age policy until 31 December 2021 to allow a further one year licence for any vehicle that had reached the upper age limit. This temporary relaxation was proposed to assist the Taxi and Private Hire trade during the Covid-19 pandemic due to a dramatic downturn in business and income.

The Committee noted a typo in the report under item 7 Risk Assessment – it should read: “The assessment of the risk is low. A further one-year licence will only be considered if the vehicles meets the current high standards both mechanically and visually. The test also includes emissions testing. If the vehicle does not meet the standards set a licence will not be considered.”

**RESOLVED –**

**It was AGREED that:**

- (1) the Committee approved a temporary relaxation of the vehicle age policy for licensed hackney carriage and private hire vehicles until 31 December 2021.
- (2) any vehicle that required a further one-year licence was to pass a mechanical inspection compliance test carried out by Hedge End Depot prior to an application being submitted for a further one year licence.
- (3) any vehicle granted a further one year licence was to pass a mechanical inspection compliance test carried out by Hedge End Depot six months into the one year licence.

5. EXEMPTION TO PRIVATE HIRE POLICY

The Senior Licensing Officer introduced the report, which proposed an exemption from the Private Hire licensed vehicle conditions which stated the minimum size height, width, depth and leg room for each seat per passenger. The proposed vehicle model is the Toyota Prius Plus. This exemption is proposed to assist the taxi and Private Hire trade during the Covid-19 pandemic due to a dramatic downturn in business and income.

**RESOLVED –**

It was **AGREED** that:

- (1) the Committee approved an exemption to the Private Hire vehicle policy to allow Toyota Prius Plus model to be licensed for six passengers for school transport vehicles only; and
- (2) any Toyota Prius Plus licensed for six passengers for school transport must display permanently fixed signage on the nearside and offside of the vehicle stating “Licensed for School Transport only”.

6. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - UNPARISHED AREA OF EASTLEIGH BOROUGH

The Strategic Planning Manager and Leader of The Council introduced the report and recommendations of the Community Governance Review – Unparished Area of Eastleigh Borough.

**RESOLVED –**

It was recommended to Council that:

- (1) A new Boyatt Wood Parish Council be sought comprising that part of the unparished area to the north and west of the Romsey-Eastleigh-Winchester railway line;

- (2) A new Eastleigh Town Council be sought comprising the remaining parts of the unparished area;**
- (3) Staff bring forward to Administration Committee implementation proposals for the new Councils to enable first elections in May 2022, and**
- (4) Administration Committee be given full delegated powers to resolve these.**

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