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| TRDC | Three Rivers House  Northway  Rickmansworth  Herts WD3 1RL |

**REGULATORY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Draft MINUTES**

of a meeting held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Rickmansworth, on Wednesday 19 June 2019 from 7.30pm to 8.03pm.

Councillors present: Councillors Steve Drury (Chairman), Martin Trevett (Vice-Chairman), Donna Duncan, Paula Hiscocks, Joy Mann, Shanti Maru, Roger Seabourne, Dominic Sokalski, Alex Turner.

Officers: Matthew Roberts – Team Leader Projects and Compliance

Sherrie Ralton, Committee Manager

RG01/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

RG02/19 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regulatory Services Committee Meeting held on 5 December 2018 and 20 March 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman

RG03/19 NOTICE OF OTHER BUSINESS

None received.

**RG04/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There was none.

RG05/19 REVIEW OF TRDC’S EXISTING HACKNEY CARRIAGE, PRIVATE HIRE AND OPERATOR POLICIES

At the Regulatory Services Committee held on 20 March 2019 Members were advised of the changes to the Council’s Hackney Carriage Driver, Vehicle and Private Hire Driver, Vehicle and Operator policy. The changes followed a 6 month review by the Lead Licensing Officer on all existing taxi policies as well as reviewing other local authorities’ policies and including updated legislation and guidance. The review was undertaken to assist the licensing department moving forward to enable more proactive and proportionate enforcement and to ensure that the department can improve and uphold high standards of customer service. The review and recommendation sought to implement a single all-encompassing taxi policy, to be known formally as Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy (“the Policy”).

The Team Leader for Projects and Compliance advised that a constructive Operator Meeting had taken place. Following this the 28 day consultation had gone ahead. Three responses had been received and following that some further amendments to the policy had been made.

The following points were raised by Members:

Item 18.6 Reducing Air Pollution. ‘Vehicles should not be left idle for sustained periods’ to be tightened up to state that there should be no idling.

Item 4 Private Hire Door Sticker Signs. Members felt the prescribed sticker badges could be detrimental to private car drivers as it could cause damage to paintwork and would be unfair to the driver when using the vehicle for personal use. This item to be amended to give drivers the choice to use stickers or magnetic signs with the addition that points would be given if the driver failed to display the magnetic sign whilst the cab was in operation.

Public to be made aware through social media, the website and the digital Three Rivers Times that driver non-compliance with the new policy can be reported to the Council.

On being put to the committee the recommendations were declared CARRIED

RESOLVED:

That the Members of the Committee agreed:

1. **To adopt the amended Policy (including appendices) attached to the report** and request that the Policy and Resources Committee adopt the policy subject to the following:

* Page 16 item 18.6 to be amended to state that there should be no idling of vehicles;
* Page 68 Item 4 to be amended to state that the proprietor has the choice to display either a sticker or magnetic sign.
* Public to be made aware through social media, the website and the digital Three Rivers Times that driver non-compliance with the new policy can be reported to the Council.

***Post Meeting Note:*** *It was requested for the ‘Regulatory Sub-Committee’ to be amended to read ‘Licensing Sub Committee’, however under Part 3 of the Constitution Responsibility for Functions shows Power to Licence operators of hackney carriages and private hire vehicles is within the remit of the Regulatory Services Committee, therefore would be delegated to the Regulatory Sub-Committee.*

That Members of the Committee agreed that:

1. Paragraph 2.8 Contravention Points System, if a licensed driver reaches 12 points within a 12 month period, the license will be referred to the Lead Licensing Officer to make a decision or she be delegated to refer the matter to the Regulatory Sub-Committee for review with Members having the final say.

**RG06/19 REGULATORY SERVICES COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

To consider and make necessary changes to the Committee’s work programme

Members asked for the addition of a progress report on the new model byelaws for Pleasure Grounds, Public Walks and Open Spaces.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee noted the items included in the work programme, subject to the amendments agreed at the meeting.

CHAIRMAN