

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LICENSING & REGULATORY COMMITTEE HELD AT
CIVIC SUITE 2, BROCKS HILL COUNCIL OFFICES, WASHBROOK LANE, OADBY,
LEICESTER, LE2 5JJ ON THURSDAY, 19 JUNE 2025 COMMENCING AT 6.36 PM**

PRESENT

C D Kozlowski Chair
C J R Martin Vice-Chair



Meeting ID: 2888

COUNCILLORS

R H Adams
S S Athwal
G A Boulter
J K Chohan
J K Ford
F S Ghattoraya
P Joshi
J Kaufman

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

D M Gill Solicitor / Interim Monitoring Officer
H Mansfield Senior Environmental Health Officer
J Wells Senior Strategic Development Manager
S Wheeliker Senior Democratic & Electoral Services Officer

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor H E Darling.

2. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES

Councillor J K Ford substituted for Councillor H E Darling.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J K Ford declared a non-pecuniary interest with regard to item 8 of the agenda, insofar as he was director of a company which was inspected by the Council.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 March 2025 be taken as read, confirmed and approved.

5. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

None.

6. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None.

7. FOOD SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN (2025/26)

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendix (as set out at pages 5 – 11 of the agenda reports pack), which highlighted the plan for delivering the Food Service for the current year and to report the progress on 2024/25.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The content of the report and appendix be noted.

8. HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE POLICY REVIEW

The Committee gave consideration to the report and appendices (as set out at pages 12 – 66 of the agenda reports pack), which proposed that the Council update its Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy to incorporate the latest guidance from the Institute of Licensing and to update the Council's penalty points scheme.

Councillor Kaufman requested that it be recorded he was in favour of there being a target date set for a proportion of hackney carriages in the Borough to be wheelchair accessible, such as when vehicles are due for replacement. Officers advised that there are some incentives in place for hackney carriages to be wheelchair accessible, such as a 25% discount on fees, and advised that this may be counterproductive and result in more drivers opting for private hire licenses rather than hackney carriage licenses. Officers also advised that some larger taxis are in fact wheelchair accessible, despite not being categorised as such.

It was moved by the Vice-Chair, seconded by Councillor R H Adams, and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

- i) That the Institute of Licensing's (IOL) guidance entitled 'Guidance on determining the suitability of applicants and licensees in the hackney carriage and private hire industry' (2024) be adopted;**
- ii) The Legal and Democratic Services Manager / Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, to review the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy and the IOL guidance to ensure there is a consistent approach to that advocated in the Guidance and make any changes necessary; and**
- iii) That the penalty points scheme provided at Appendix 1 of the Policy be replaced with a revised scheme provided in Appendix 2 of this report.**

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.13 pm