CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL

Non-Statutory Licensing Committee

Minutes - 9 September 2020

Attendance

Members of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee

Cllr Alan Bolshaw (Chair) Cllr Greg Brackenridge Cllr Keith Inston Cllr Rita Potter Cllr Milkinderpal Jaspal Cllr Anwen Muston Cllr Jonathan Crofts Cllr Zee Russell

Employees

Donna Cope Chris Howell Greg Bickerdike Sarah Hardwick Jaswinder Kaur Democratic Services Officer Commercial Regulation Manager Section Leader Licensing Senior Solicitor Democratic Services Manager

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. Title

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Obaida Ahmed.

2 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

- 3 Minutes of previous meeting
 - **Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee held on 8 July 2020 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4 Matters arising

Item 5 – Greg Bickerdike, Section Leader Licensing, stated that as a result of changes to The Business and Planning Bill, the administration of Pavement Licences had changed from being a function of the Executive to a function of the Council.

5 **Minutes - 22 July 2020 - Non-Statutory Licensing Sub-Committee** Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Non-Statutory Licensing Sub-Committee held on 22 July 2020 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

6 Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards

Greg Bickerdike, Section Leader Licensing, presented a report on the recommendations made by the Department for Transport's 'Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards' and the implications for Licensing Services.

The 'Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards' were published on 21 July 2020 and subsequently, a review of Licensing Services' policies, procedures and operations had been carried out.

The Section Leader stated that some of the recommendations had already been implemented by Licensing Services and little change had been necessary. It was proposed that other recommendations underwent a full 12-week public consultation to obtain valuable feedback before implementation.

He outlined the recommendations that had been implemented and responded to questions asked.

Councillor Brackenridge commended the report and moved the recommendations. Councillor Potter seconded the recommendations.

Resolved:

That Members of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee:

- 1. Approved a 12-week public consultation of the proposals to harmonise Licensing Services' policies and procedures with the Department for Transport's Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards.
- 2. Noted the actions taken by Licensing Services to harmonise Licensing Services' policies and procedures with the Department for Transport's Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards.

7 Pavement Licences Update

Greg Bickerdike, Section Leader Licensing, presented an update on the implementation of the Pavement Licence Regime, introduced by The Business and Planning Act 2020.

He stated that as a result of changes to The Business and Planning Bill prior to its enactment, the administration of Pavement Licences had changed from being a function of the Executive to a function of the Council.

The Section Leader outlined further amendments that had been made to the Bill and stated that the new requirements had been added to the Standard Pavement Conditions.

The updated Pavement Licence Policy and the proposed Standard Pavement Licence Conditions were presented to the Committee.

Councillor Potter moved the recommendations. Councillor Brackenridge seconded the recommendations.

Resolved:

That Members of the Non-Statutory Licensing Committee:

- 1. Approved the revised Pavement Licence Policy and Standard Pavement Licence Conditions.
- 2. Confirmed the delegation of authority to determine applications, review licences and manage the appeal of decisions for Pavement Licences.