

## LICENSING COMMITTEE

1.00 P.M.

12TH JUNE 2025

**PRESENT:-** Councillors Paul Tynan (Chair), Margaret Pattison (Vice-Chair), Louise Belcher, Martin Bottoms, Martin Gawith, John Hanson and Sally Maddocks

Apologies for Absence

Councillors Gerry Blaikie, Maria Deery and Andrew Gardiner

Officers in attendance:

Jennifer Curtis	Licensing Manager
Daniel Spencer	Lawyer
David Eglin	Licensing Officer (minutes 1 to 8 only)
Sarah Jones	Licensing Officer (minutes 1 to 7 only)
Sarah Moorghen	Democratic Support Officer

### 1 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

The Chair requested nominations for Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee for the municipal year 2025/26.

It was proposed by Councillor John Hanson and seconded by Councillor Margaret Pattison:

“That Councillor Sally Maddocks be appointed Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee.”

There being no further nominations, the Chair declared the proposal to be carried.

***Resolved:***

That Councillor Sally Maddocks be appointed Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee for the municipal year 2025/26.

### 2 MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> March and 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 3 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR

There were no items of urgent business.

### 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

**5 EXEMPT ITEM**

It was moved by Councillor John Hanson, seconded by Councillor Margaret Pattison and unanimously agreed:

***Resolved:***

That, in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds they could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information, as defined, in Paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of that Act

***With the agreement of the Committee the Chair amended the order of the agenda to take Item 11 – Decision taken in respect of a review of a Dual Drivers Licence, first.***

**6 DECISION TAKEN IN RESPECT OF A REVIEW OF A DUAL DRIVERS LICENCE**

The Licensing Manager presented a report which notified the Committee of an urgent decision taken by the Licensing Manager in consultation with the Chair of Licensing Committee in respect of a dual driver's licence.

***Resolved:***

That the report be noted.

***Councillor Sally Maddocks was in attendance at the meeting from this point onwards.***

**7 EXISTING DUAL DRIVERS LICENCE**

The Committee was advised that an application had been made for an adjournment of this item due to the driver having been unable to secure legal representation for the hearing.

The Committee considered the applications and agreed, for the preservation of natural justice, that the hearing could be adjourned to the next meeting of Licensing Committee.

***Resolved:***

That the hearing be adjourned.

**8 EXISTING DUAL DRIVERS LICENCE**

The Committee received the report of the Licensing Officer for the purpose of determining action on a dual driver's licence (Hackney Carriage and Private Hire). Details of the individual case and the Chair's summary of the decision are set out in Exempt Minute No.8 in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

***Decision of the Committee:***

The decision of the Committee is set out in Exempt Minute No 8.

*The press and public were readmitted to the meeting at this point.*

*The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2.15 p.m and reconvened at 2.20 p.m.*

## **9 HACKNEY CARRIAGE PROPRIETOR LICENCE - SPECIFICATION**

The Licensing Manager presented a report on the availability of two new Hackney Carriage licences.

The Committee was advised that In April 2022, members of Licensing Committee had made available two hackney carriage vehicle licences. Members had specified that the vehicles considered for licensing must align with the Council's aspirations around air quality and accessibility, be zero emission and wheelchair accessible.

It was reported that since implementation, no applications had been forthcoming in relation to the additional licences. Feedback suggested that the current market for wheelchair accessible/zero emission vehicles was small/expensive/non-existent.

Members were advised that the Taxi and Private Hire Liaison Group met in April 2025 to discuss accessibility and specifically how the trade and Council could work together to improve the current position. One of the suggestions at the meeting was to remove the emission standards in relation to the 2 available hackney carriage licences, additionally mandating that any replacement vehicle must also be wheelchair accessible. Thus, improving the offering in respect of wheelchair accessible vehicles locally.

The Committee was advised that one licensed private hire operator and one current licenced driver, who had attended the liaison group meeting wished to apply for the available licences. Both were in attendance at the meeting, and given the opportunity to address the Committee.

Members considered the applications, and it was proposed by Councillor Sally Maddocks and seconded by Councillor Margaret Pattison and unanimously agreed;

### ***Resolved:***

That the 2 additional hackney carriage licences be granted with the vehicle specifications amended to be wheelchair accessible only, and mandated that any future replacement vehicles on such licence must also be wheelchair accessible.

***With the agreement of the Committee the Chair amended the order of the agenda to take Item 13 – Safer Morecambe Partnership next.***

## **10 SAFER MORECAMBE PARTNERSHIP**

The Committee welcomed PC Andrew Taylor, Inspector James Martin and Tim Bradbury from Morecambe BID, to the meeting.

A presentation was provided on Police Licensing and partner agencies working together around reducing the risks around alcohol sales and consumption. The Safer Morecambe Partnership was a partnership between the police, partner agencies such as Morecambe

BID and the Council which was looking at trends, problems and concerns in Morecambe that needed to be addressed to make the town “Eden Ready”.

The Committee was advised that one of the big problems highlighted related to street drinking and begging and this was often linked to local off-licenses selling single cans of extra strength alcohol to these people.

The Committee thanked PC Andrew Taylor, Inspector James Martin and Tim Bradbury from Morecambe BID for their attendance and their presentation and requested that a briefing note be provided to for consideration by the Committee at a future meeting.

***Resolved:***

The presentation be noted.

**11 GAMBLING ACT 2005 - STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY 2025-2028**

The Licensing Manager presented a report on the Statement of Gambling Policy 2025-2028 which sought members approval of the draft policy for public consultation.

The Committee was advised that the current policy had expired in January 2022. The draft Statement of Gambling Policy 2025-28 was appended to the report for members consideration.

It was reported that a 6 week consultation was planned between Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025, during which time the draft would be available to view on the Council's website and at Morecambe and Lancaster Town Halls.

The Committee considered the policy and asked a number of questions including about the limits on the number of machines and also requested that Citizens Advice Bureau be added to the list of direct consultees.

It was proposed by Councillor Sally Maddocks, seconded by Councillor John Hanson and resolved with 6 votes in favour and one abstention:

***Resolved:***

That the draft Statement of Gambling Policy 2025-2028 be approved for public consultation.

**12 CHAIRS OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES**

The Chair called for nominations for two Sub-Committee Chairs in addition to the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Councillors Martin Bottoms and Margaret Pattison advised the Committee that they would like to nominate themselves as Licensing Sub-Committee Chairs.

As there were no other nominations, the Chair declared that Councillors Martin Bottoms and Margaret Pattison be appointed as Licensing Sub-Committee Chairs.

***Resolved:***

That Councillors Martin Bottoms and Margaret Pattison be appointed as a Sub-Committee Chairs along with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee.

**13 TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE LIAISON GROUP - APPOINTMENT**

The Licensing Manager presented a report on appointments to the Taxi and Private Hire Liaison Group.

***Resolved unanimously:***

- (1) That the Chair of Licensing Committee be appointed as Chair of the Taxi and Private Hire Liaison Group.
- (2) All members of the Licensing Committee are appointed to the Taxi and Private Hire Liaison Group and are invited to attend all future meetings.

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Chair

(The meeting ended at 3.40 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
Sarah Moorghen, Democratic Support - email [smoorghen@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:smoorghen@lancaster.gov.uk)**

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