

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Regeneration

held on Monday, 6th November, 2017 at Committee Suite 1 & 2, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor A Arnold – Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and
Regeneration

Officers

Kim Evans – Licensing Team Leader
Gaynor Hawthornthwaite – Democratic Services Officer

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

No members of the public were present.

4 PHASE TWO - HARMONISATION OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES

The Licensing Officer introduced the report and gave a brief history of the Council's proposals to amend the Hackney carriage fares which had been considered on a number of previous occasions. This history is set out in Appendix 2.

In July 2014 the Portfolio Holder had considered proposals which were drawn up based on parameters approved by the Cabinet Member, which included harmonising fares over a number of steps, that meant that eventually the first mile and flag rates would be the same, and that waiting time be included in any proposals.

A 6 week consultation period was conducted from 13th August 2014 to 24th September 2014. The proposals were also published on the Council's website and two drop-in sessions were organised for anyone who wanted more information on the proposals. The consultation document is set out in Appendix 3 and all consultation responses received are set out in Appendix 4.

On the 5th December 2014 the Portfolio Holder considered the consultation responses in relation to the 'Phased Harmonisation' proposals.

On the 13th July 2015 the Portfolio Holder resolved that phase one of the proposals be implemented with effect from 3rd August 2015. The current fares applicable in each zone are set out at appendix 5.

The table of fares should be set to enable:

- Sustainable income for drivers. It is therefore important that the public and trade recognise that the Council sets the maximum fares payable rather than a fixed rate.
- Future investment in vehicles to ensure they remain safe and suitable for use as a working vehicle
- Clear and simple maximum charges that minimise the opportunity for overcharging or confusion

The Council has no power to set the fees for private hire vehicles. In addition the Table of Fares is not applicable to vehicles licensed by other Local Authorities, but working in the Borough.

RESOLVED:

That:

1. Phase two of the proposals be initiated in line with the relevant statutory processes (appendix 1).
2. The Licensing Team Leader be authorised to take all necessary actions to commence the proposals including writing and advertising the Statutory Public Notices.
3. In the event of any objections being received following placement of the notices, a further Portfolio Holder meeting should be arranged to consider those objections.
4. If no objections are received, the Table of Fares for each zone, advertised in accordance with the requirements of Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, will automatically come into force on the date specified in the Public Notices.

The meeting commenced at 12.00 pm and concluded at 12.35 pm