Minute

Licensing Committee

Thursday, 11 December 2025, 15:30.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.

Present

Councillors Duncan A Tullock, Kristopher D Leask, Alexander G Cowie, David Dawson, Steven B Heddle and Owen Tierney.

Present via remote link (Microsoft Teams)

Councillor Gwenda M Shearer.

Clerk

- Katy Russell-Duff, Committees Officer.

In Attendance

- Gavin Mitchell, Head of Corporate Governance.
- Karen Bevilacqua, Service Manager (Legal Services).
- Lillian Rendall, Legal Clerk.
- Lindsay Whitten, Licensing Officer.

Police Scotland:

- Sergeant Ross Masson.

In Attendance via remote link (Microsoft Teams)

- Sergeant Sarah Paterson.

Apology

- Councillor Rachael A King.

Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were intimated.

Chair

- Councillor Duncan A Tullock.

1. Review of Maximum Fares and Charges in respect of Taxi Services on Mainland Area of Orkney

After consideration of a report by the Chief Executive, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Service Manager (Legal Services), the Committee:

Resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

1.1. That the proposed new scales, which were the same as the current scales for maximum fares and charges for all taxi services on the Mainland area of Orkney, including the linked south isles, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report by the Chief Executive, be approved for public consultation.

1.2. That the Chief Executive should submit a report, to the meeting of the Licensing Committee to be held on 5 March 2026, on the outcome of the public consultation, referred to at paragraph 1.1 above, together with proposed scales for the maximum fares and charges for all taxi services within the Mainland area of Orkney, including the linked south isles, to be effective from 1 May 2026.

2. Exclusion of Public

On the motion of Councillor Duncan A Tullock, seconded by Councillor Kristopher D Leask, the Committee resolved that the public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting, as the business to be considered involved the disclosure of exempt information of the classes described in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended.

3. Short-term Let Licence

The complainant was present during discussion of this item.

Under section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public had been excluded from the meeting for this item on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6 and 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

After consideration of a report by the Chief Executive, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Service Manager (Legal Services), the Committee:

Resolved, in terms of delegated powers, what action should be taken with regard to a short-term let licence.

The above constitutes the summary of the Minute in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 section 50C(2) as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

4. Application for Renewal of Taxi Driver's Licence

Under section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public had been excluded from the meeting for this item on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 6 and 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

After consideration of a report by the Chief Executive, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing a report from the Service Manager (Legal Services), the Committee:

Resolved, in terms of delegated powers, what action should be taken with regard to an application for renewal of a taxi driver's licence.

The above constitutes the summary of the Minute in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 section 50C(2) as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

5. Taxi Driver's Licence and Taxi Licence

The Committee noted that this item was withdrawn.

6. Conclusion of Meeting

At 16:11 the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Duncan A Tullock.