

**CANNOCK CHASE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**HACKNEY CARRIAGE & PRIVATE HIRE LIAISON GROUP**

**Minutes of a Special Meeting held at 11.00am on Tuesday 23 January 2018**  
**Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 1BG**

**Members of the Liaison Group (Councilors)**

Cllr Carl Bennett, Portfolio Leader for Crime & Community Partnerships (Group Chair)\*

**Members of the Liaison Group (officer)**

David Prosser-Davies : CCDC\*

Sean O'Meara : CCDC\*

Jason Salter : CCDC\*

**Representative of the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Trade**

Terrance Hurley\*

Steven Toy\*

Kendal Tranter\*\*\*

Martin Hammond\*\*\*

Steven Holroyd\*\*\*

Omar Ali (Observer)\*\*

Victor Simonczyk\*

Patricia Taylor\*\*

George Simonczyk\*\*\*

Harry Griffiths\*\*\*

(\* Present (\*\* Apology (\*\*\*) Not Present / No Apology

**Welcome & Apologies**

Cllr Bennett welcomed everybody to the meeting and apologies were accepted.

**Minutes of the last meeting**

The notes of the meeting on Wednesday 8 November 2017 were confirmed as an accurate record.

**Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**Cross Border Hiring**

Mr Toy gave an update on cross border hiring and highlighted the difficulties which exist, even within our own District. Mr Prosser-Davies asked if we could add anything to the current debate and the joint letter which we had agreed to create. It was agreed that Mr Toy & Mr Prosser-Davies should meet to discuss the matter and meld Mr Toy's letter and Mr Lee Ward's letter together. Note was made that Brexit was leaving little or no parliamentary time available to discuss issues if this nature.

### **Spare wheels in licensed vehicles.**

This item was placed on the agenda by Harry Griffiths who was not in attendance at the meeting. It was agreed that the matter be put onto the agenda for the meeting in April.

### **Darkened windows in licensed vehicles.**

Once again, this item was placed on the agenda by Harry Griffiths who was not in attendance at the meeting.

However, there was some discussion around the basis of such a licence condition within council policy and it was noted that there is little consistency amongst council's across the country in respect of darkened windows in licensed vehicles. Some councils permit tints on every vehicle; some permit only manufacturers tint; some rely upon a permitted percentage of tint and other do not permit tints at all.

It was noted that the council's policy is not as onerous as others and does permit darkened windows in private hire vehicles but not within hackney carriages. This differentiation is based on the potential to compromise public safety.

It was thought that as Mr Griffiths had put the item on the agenda, he may have something additional to say on the matter and it was again agreed that the item be put onto the agenda of the next meeting in April.

### **Licence fees 2018**

Mr Prosser-Davies confirmed that the licence fees for 2018 were now agreed and will change from April 2018. This was noted by all.

### **Driver satisfaction surveys**

Mr Prosser- Davies informed the group that the Council intends to carry out a satisfaction survey of drivers. This will be back dated to November 2017 and run for about 12 months.

### **Licensing & Enforcement Officer Post**

Cllr Bennett informed the group that Jason Salter was leaving the post on 26 January 2018 and that the Council would look to fill the vacant post as soon as possible. The group thanked Jason for his commitment over the years and agreed that he will be missed.

### **Date of next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held at the Civic Centre on 24 April 2018 .