

## **LICENSING COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2009**

#### **Present:**

Councillors Wells (Chair), Mrs Blatchford, Cunio, Drake, Fuller, Galton, Holmes, Letts, Norris, Thomas, Walker and Willacy.

#### **10. APOLOGIES**

Councillor Odgers

#### **11. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2008 be approved and signed as a correct record. (Copy of the minutes circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

#### **12. HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENCES –UNMET DEMAND SURVEY**

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Solicitor to the Council setting out a report by the Halcrow Group Limited concerning Hackney Carriage demand in relation to the City Council's current policy of numerical control of the number of Hackney Carriage Licences issued. (Copy of the minutes circulated with the agenda and appended to the signed minutes).

Mr. S. Fricker, Mr. D. Griffiths, Mr Shuaib Afzal and Mr. P. MacMillan, UNITE Southampton Cab Section SE 621, Mr I Hall, Southampton Hackney Carriage Association, Mr. G. Piccinino, Owner/Driver, Mr C Johnson, Southampton Taxi Consultative Committee together with Ms L Eccles, Halcrow were present and with the consent of the Chair, addressed the meeting.

**RESOLVED** that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Rules, the press and public be excluded from the meeting to enable the Committee to receive legal advice in relation to the various options set out in the report on grounds based on Category 5 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules regarding information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

The Committee returned to public session to allow the Assistant Solicitor to the Council to set out the legal advice given in private session and for the Committee to consider the various options contained in the report.

**RESOLVED** that Option 3 as detailed in the report to increase the number of Hackney Carriage plates by issuing an additional twenty Hackney Carriage licences to meet the unmet demand identified in the independent consultants report over a period of three years (4 licences on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009, 8 licences on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010 and 8 licences on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011), based on the conditions set out in paragraph 13 of the report and subject to further clarification in a detailed report on conditions of issue to the next meeting, be approved.

**ABSTAINED** Councillors Drake and Galton.