

Present: Councillor Helen Staples (Chairman), Councillor Chris Mountain (Vice-Chairman), Councillors Richard Austin BEM, John Baxter, James Cantwell, Neil Drayton, Stuart Evans, Paul Gleeson, Patricia Marson, Lina Savickiene, Suzanne Welberry and Stephen Woodliffe

In attendance -

Officers –
Senior Licensing Officer and Democratic Services Officer

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received from Councillors; Helen Staples and David Scoot.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were received

3 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None

4 HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY

The Senior Licensing Officer presented the Committee with the proposed amendments and additions to Boston Borough Councils Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Guidance and Policy ahead of it being released for consultation.

The Council had been operating from and providing applicants with two separate policies, the proposed policy review aimed to combine the policies and add additional information into the document.

The Committee made the following comments;

- The new format was much easier to comprehend than both previous versions of the policy.
- Penalty Points Scheme - Drivers and Owners should be given an initial shorter period for points to become spent under the scheme to allow them to get used to the changes before the commencement of the 36 month endorsement period.
- The penalty point's scheme would look better if tiered in order of awardable points.
- The penalty points scheme should highlight that all non-compliances with a value of 12 points would be referred to a Sub - Committee as a matter of priority.
- Mention of the Council's Corporate Enforcement Policy should be added into the Policy to reference how the Licensing Section with handle complaints and enforcement.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the Committee approved the proposed amendments and additions to the policy for consultation with the taxi trade, general public and any relevant stakeholders.