

## Regulatory Committee

2.00pm, Monday 21 August 2017

### Present

Councillors Fullerton (Convener), Barrie, Burgess, Dixon, Munro (substitute for Councillor Arthur), Rose, Neil Ross, Smith and Watt (substitute for Councillor Wilson),

### 1. Minutes

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#### Decision

To approve the minute of the Regulatory Committee of 21 April 2017 as a correct record.

### 2. Rolling Actions Programme

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The Regulatory Committee Rolling Actions Programme for 3 May 2013 to 21 August 2017 was presented.

#### Decision

To note the Rolling Actions Programme.

(References – Act of Council No. 12 of 24 October 2013; Regulatory Committee Rolling Actions Programme – 21 August 2017, submitted)

### 3. Request for Approval of Ford Procab as a Suitable Vehicle for Licensing as a Taxi

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Vehicles licensed as taxis by the City of Edinburgh Council ('the Council') must be a motor vehicle which holds a valid European Whole Vehicle Type Approval as an M1 vehicle. It must be purpose built for use as a taxi and must comply in all respects with the requirements of any Acts and Regulations relating to motor vehicles, and with the Council's Licensing Conditions for Taxis ('the Conditions'). Additionally, the Conditions require that all licensed taxis in Edinburgh must be readily wheelchair accessible.

An application has been made by Allied Vehicles Ltd to approve the Ford Procab model for licensing as a taxi by the Council. It is not a purpose built taxi and therefore requires exemption from the policies noted above.

#### Decision

1. To note the report.
2. To approve the Ford Procab as a vehicle suitable for licensing as a taxi within the City of Edinburgh Council area.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

#### **4. Demand for Taxis: Six Monthly Update - report by the Executive Director of Place**

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Details of the most recent analysis of demand for taxis in the city carried out by Sky High Technology Ltd in April and June 2017, was provided in a six monthly update report.

There had been no recorded complaints from the public regarding the lack of taxis.

##### **Decision**

1. To note the report.
2. To agree that there was currently no evidence of significant unmet taxi demand and therefore to maintain the limit of 1316 on the number of taxis licenced in the city.
3. To agree to use the survey within the report as the basis for determining demand in any future applications for a taxi licence.
4. To note that the comprehensive survey carried out by CH2M was on the agenda for this committee and this interim surveys will allow a short period of consultation on both reports.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

#### **5. Survey of Demand for Taxis within the City of Edinburgh**

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The Council has a policy of limiting the number of taxi licences issued within the City, utilising the powers available to it under Section 10 (3) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. This power can only be used if the Council is satisfied that there was 'no significant demand' for taxis which is unmet. The Council was required to keep this position under regular review.

The Regulatory Committee on 16 November 2012 approved as part of its work plan to commission consultants to review the provision of taxis within the city, and specifically to identify whether there was any 'significant unmet demand' for taxis.

Demand was reviewed regularly since that date, with the results of interim surveys being reported to the Regulatory Committee. Following a procurement exercise, CH2M was commissioned in January 2017 to undertake a comprehensive survey of demand for taxis and undertook the research between March 2017 and June 2017.

The Committee received a presentation from Liz Richardson from CH2M on the research and consultations carried out

The Committee was requested to note CH2M's conclusion that no significant unmet demand exists and to agree to publish the report on the Consultation Hub, and invite comment from interested parties

##### **Decision**

1. To note the survey results and the CH2M report.

2. To note CH2M's conclusion that no significant unmet demand exists and therefore the limit of 1316 licences should remain.
3. To publish the report on the Consultation Hub, and invite comment from interested parties on (i) the survey and its conclusions; and (ii) views on whether the Council should maintain the taxi limitation policy.
4. To receive a report in one cycle.

(Reference – report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)

## **6. Licensing Policy Development - Late Hours Catering Consultation Delivery Service Consultation Update**

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Details were provided of the outcome of a consultation on Late Hours Catering premises who wished to provide a licensed delivery service between 3.00am and 5.00am. The consultation ran from 7 April until 19 May 2017.

### **Decision**

- 1 To note the outcome of the consultation.
- 2 To note that there is limited public support for the proposed changes to the current licensing regime and therefore resolves to make no changes to the existing policy.

(Reference – Regulatory Committees 19 September 2016 (item 7); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted)