

Regulatory Committee

9.30am, Monday 19 August 2019

Present

Councillors Fullerton (Convener), Dixon (Vice-Convener), Arthur, Doran (substituting for Councillor Wilson), Howie, Rae, Rose and Neil Ross.

1. Minutes

Decision

To approve the minute of the Regulatory Committee of 20 May 2019 as a correct record.

2. Rolling Actions Log

The Regulatory Committee Rolling Actions Log was submitted.

Decision

- 1) To agree to keep Action 1 open (Street Trading: High Street and Hunter Square Update) and to note the expected reporting date to Committee was now October 2019.
- 2) To agree to close Action 5 – Taxi Examination Centre – Vehicle Inspections.
- 3) To note the remaining outstanding actions.

(References – Regulatory Committee Rolling Actions Programme, submitted)

3. Business Bulletin

The Regulatory Committee Business Bulletin of 19 August 2019 was submitted.

Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Business Bulletin, submitted)

4. Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015 – Repeal of Theatres Act 1968 – Update After Initial Consultation

An update was provided on the implementation and changes to the licensing regime as a result of the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015.

The Theatres Act 1968 would be repealed on 27 January 2021 and the current exemption within the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 would also be removed, thereby enabling a local authority to resolve under section 9 of the 1982 Act to license theatres under its public entertainment licensing regime.

The outcome of the initial consultation on the matter had been completed and Committee was requested to approve, in principle, the proposal to include theatres within its Public Entertainment Resolution and thereafter to progress the statutory consultation process on the proposed change.

Decision

- 1) To note the report and the outcome of the initial consultation.
- 2) To agree to the proposal to add theatres to the City of Edinburgh Council Public Entertainment Resolution.
- 3) To note the proposed changes as detailed in paragraph 4.9 and to instruct officers to advertise the proposed changes to the City of Edinburgh Council Public Entertainment Resolution in line with the required statutory consultation process.
- 4) To note that officers would report back to the Committee on conclusion of the statutory consultation for approval of the revised resolution.

(References – Regulatory Committee of 11 March 2019 (item 3); report by the Executive Director of Place, submitted.)

5. Request for Variation: Taxi Vehicle Licence Conditions (Advertising)

The Committee was asked to consider a proposed variation to the current standard conditions attached to taxi licences regarding advertising in or on the vehicles. The Council had specific conditions based on the need for safety, which prevented nonstandard fittings from being added to a Taxi.

The Committee was asked to consider whether this style of advertising was appropriate, and if so to agree to the Council's Scheme of Delegation to Officers being amended to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place to approve this type of advertising, and to vary the standard conditions of licence to disapply condition 299, insofar as it applied to 'Brightmove taxi tops' in the future.

Members received a presentation from representatives of Dooh Smart Ltd on the illuminated advertising technology.

Decision

- 1) To thank the representatives from Dooh Smart Ltd for their presentation.
- 2) To approve the request from Dooh Smart Ltd to install its 'Brightmove taxi top illuminated advertising technology' on City of Edinburgh taxi vehicles.
- 3) To note the intention to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place to approve such installations.
- 4) To instruct the Chief Executive to include this additional delegation in future drafts of the Council's Scheme of Delegation when submitted to Council for approval.
- 5) To agree to a £57 one-off charge for examination of each vehicle in respect of future applications.
- 6) To request a further report to Committee setting out a framework and guidance principles on types of advertising which would be permitted or not permitted.

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

6. Taxi Stance Appointment – East Market Street

Proposals to relocate the taxi stance currently situated at Market Street to East Market Street were submitted.

The Executive Director of Place would carry out the statutory consultation required prior to formally appointing the taxi stance as set out in the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

Decision

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To note that officers would carry out statutory consultation on the proposed taxi stance.
- 3) To note that a report would be brought back to the Committee for a decision after the conclusion of the statutory consultation.

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