
GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE, 20.06.16

Present:

Councillors Annwen Daniels, Annwen Hughes, John Brynmor Hughes, Louise Hughes, Eryl Jones-Williams, Tudor Owen, Angela Russell, Ann Williams, Elfed W. Williams and John Wyn Williams

Also in Attendance: Gareth Jones (Senior Planning and Environment Manager), Gwenan Mai Roberts (Licensing Manager), Rhun ap Gareth (Senior Services Solicitor), Eirlys Jones (Licensing Manager) and Lowri Haf Evans (Member Support Officer)

Councillor Eryl Jones Williams took the opportunity to thank members and officers for their support during his period as Chairman.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Resolved to elect Councillor Tudor Owen as Chairman of this Committee for 2016 - 2017.

Councillor Eryl Jones-Williams was thanked for his work as Chairman of the Committee for 2014-2016.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Resolved to elect Councillor Annwen Hughes as Vice-chair of the Committee for the period of 2016-17.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Peter Read and Wyn Williams and Geraint Brython (Solicitor).

4. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declarations of personal interest were received from any members present.

5. URGENT ITEMS

None to note

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting of this committee that took place on 7th March 2016, as a true record subject to noting that Councillor Angela Russell was present.

7. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEES

Submitted, for information, the minutes of the meetings of the General Licensing Sub-committee that took place on 07.03.16 and 05.04.16.

8. FFORDD GWYNEDD - LICENSING EXERCISE

An oral update was received from the Senior Planning and Environment Manager on the service's recent exercises reviewing Licensing's work processes to ensure that the people of Gwynedd were central to what was being implemented.

It was noted that the process provided an opportunity for all to have input into the service review. He confirmed that the review had already looked at the purpose of the service, performance indicators, seeking the views of customers and reviewing current work processes. It was reported that the exercise, despite being intensive, had a positive input from all the licensing Unit staff.

Observations arising from the discussion;

- Need to ensure consistency with taxi fees - request for this to be included in the revised policy
- It was suggested that specialist training should be offered to taxi drivers in the context of child safety.
- Suggestion to collaborate closer with the contracting companies to ensure compliance with contract conditions and public safety
- It was suggested that consideration should be given for taxi drivers to receive first aid training. Although it was not a statutory requirement, it would be seen as good practice - request for this to be included in the policy review.

The meeting commenced at 10.50am and concluded at 11.15am.