

MINUTES OF THE  
REGULATORY COMMITTEE  
held on 17 March 2022 at 7pm

Present:

Councillor L. Mascot (Chair)

Councillors D.J.R. Clark, A.E. Davidson, J.A. Frasca, R.J. Lee and L.A. Millane

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Ambor, L Ashley, P Hughes, D Jones and I Roberts.

2. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3. **Declaration of Interests**

All Members were reminded to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary interests or other registerable interests where appropriate in any items of business on the meeting's agenda. None were made.

4. **Public Question Time**

There were no questions or statements from members of the public.

5. **Licensing of Tables and Chairs on the Public Highway**

(M5, Reg12, 2022) At its meeting on 27 January 2022, the Committee had agreed for public consultation a revised Pavement Licence Policy ahead of the redevelopment of Tindal Square. Under the policy, anyone wishing to place tables or chairs on the public highway would require a licence issued by the Council and be subject to certain requirements regarding eligibility, location, design of furniture, the provision of barriers, times of operation and location.

Two responses had been received to the consultation, one from the Business Improvement District and the other from a hair salon in Tindal Square. Neither objected to the policy but in response to comments by the hair salon officers informed the Committee that an additional area for seating already identified for Tindal Square had been added to the permitted area for seating in the northern

part of the High Street. The Committee was also informed that, in response to questions raised at its last meeting, a paragraph had been added to the policy to make it clear that it was applicable throughout the Chelmsford City Council district, although its main impact was within the city centre as other areas with demand for tables and chairs tended to be on privately owned land.

**RESOLVED** that the Pavement Licence Policy submitted as Appendix A to the report to the meeting be approved and come into effect on 1 April 2022.

*(7.02pm to 7.05pm)*

## 6. Amendments to Taxi Policy

The Committee was informed that the Council's Tax Licencing Policy needed to be amended to incorporate two recent changes:

1. A requirement under the Finance Act 2021 that

- drivers and Private Hire Operators applying to re-licence;
- drivers and Private Hire Operators applying for a new licence where the same licence was granted by the licensing authority and expired within the previous 12 months; and
- holders of a Drivers and Private Hire Operators licence with any other authority and applying for a licence with this authority

must register with HM Revenue and Customs and provide the licensing authority tax check code as proof

2. The recent decision of the Licensing Authority to replace the requirement for a mechanical inspection with a compliance check for brand new vehicles when they were first licensed or replaced existing licensed vehicles

The Committee supported the proposed amendments to the policy.

**RESOLVED** that the Taxi Licensing Policy be amended to take into account changes to HMRC registration requirements and the change to the requirement of mechanical inspections in respect of brand-new vehicles.

*(7.10pm to 7.15pm)*

## 7. Urgent Business

There were no matters of urgent business.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm

Chair