

# Minutes

## Taxi Association Liaison Panel

9<sup>th</sup> November 2006



Present:

<b>Councillors</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Members of Taxi Association</b>	<b>Present</b>
M J Banthorpe	Yes	Barrie Jenkins	Apologies
K E Bigden	Yes	Sue Jenkins	Apologies
A F Millam	Yes	Alan Smith	Yes
Mrs J A Pell	Apologies	Glen Stephens	Apologies
Mrs K E Tearle	Yes		

### 15 **MINUTES**

DECISION: That the minutes of the meeting of the Taxi Association Liaison Panel held on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 16 **ISSUES FROM THE LAST MEETING**

#### (a) **WHEELCHAIR DRIVING TRAINING UPDATE**

INFORMATION: The Panel was advised that new guidance had been received accompanied by a DVD as an option for drivers to learn how to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act [DDA]. The guidance includes awareness of all DDA related issues and other Councils are using this as a tool for drivers and attaching conditions to their licences requiring that the DVD is observed and a questionnaire is completed to ensure that it has been understood. The DVD is approximately 10-15 minutes duration. The Licensing Services Manager advised that she would purchase this DVD and bring it to a future meeting of the Panel where agreement can then be reached on the content of the questionnaire which will accompany it. A proposal to condition the licences in such a way as to ensure that the DVD has been observed and understood will be submitted to a future meeting of the Licensing Committee.

### 17 **DOOR STICKERS FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES**

INFORMATION: The Panel was advised that, following the discussion at the last meeting, the Braintree and District Taxi Association had rejected the proposals for the stickers on vehicles despite the support of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Association and seemingly the majority of drivers on the Ranks being in favour. The Licensing Services Manager advised that the proposal will be taken forward with

regard to Hackney Carriage vehicles and that more discussion would take place around the use of the stickers on Private Hire vehicles. The aim will be introduce the stickers at the time of each licence renewal.

18 **ISSUES FROM THE BRAINTREE DISTRICT TAXI ASSOCIATION**

(a) **PAINTED YELLOW LINES - WITHAM RANK**

INFORMATION: The Panel was advised that concern had been raised about the need for the yellow lines to be re-painted at the Witham Rank. The Licensing Enforcement Officer advised that she had spoken to the Highways Authority who have informed that these will be re-painted.

(b) **REPRESENTATION FROM WITHAM AND HALSTEAD**

INFORMATION: A discussion was held on the low level of representation from the areas of Halstead and Witham. It was agreed that the Licensing Services Manager would write to all Operators before the next meeting to see if there were any issues which they would like discussed. It was also agreed that the next meeting would be held during the daytime at the quietest time of the day for drivers.

19 **ISSUES FROM THE COUNCIL'S LICENSING TEAM**

INFORMATION: There were no issues raised.

20 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

INFORMATION: There was no other business.

21 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

DECISION: That the next meeting of the Panel be held at 10.00am in Committee Room 2 on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2007.

The meeting commenced at 6.00pm and closed at 6.45pm.

A F MILLAM  
CHAIRMAN