PUBLIC PROTECTION LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Hybrid meeting held on 9th December, 2025.

The Committee agenda is available <u>here</u>.

The recording of the meeting is available here.

<u>Present</u>: Councillor P. Drake (Chair); Councillor J.M. Norman (Vice-Chair); Councillors G. Bruce, B. Dodd, R. Fisher, C.P. Franks, N.B. Marshallsea, M.J.G. Morgan, S.T. Wiliam and M.R. Wilkinson.

499 ANNOUNCEMENT -

Prior to the commencement of the business of the Committee, the Chair read the following statement: "May I remind everyone present that the meeting will be live streamed as well as recorded via the internet and this recording archived for future viewing".

500 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE -

These were received from Councillors L. Burnett, W.A. Hennessy and R. Sivagnanam.

501 MINUTES -

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 11th November, 2025 be approved as a correct record.

502 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST -

No declarations of interest were received.

503 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BOTH THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE CONDITIONS (CX) –

The report was presented by the Operational Manager for Environmental Protection and Licensing, and was to advise Committee of the results of a consultation with the taxi and private hire trade within the Vale of Glamorgan Council and South Wales Police, on proposed amendments to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licence Conditions. The proposed amendments were to remove conditions restricting the use of citizens band (CB) radios or scanners following a request from a licensed driver.

A response to the consultation had been received from South Wales Police, which stated that although the Police had initially had concerns regarding whether scanners would be able to access Police communications, this had been shown not to be the case, and so the Police had no objections to the proposed amendment.

One response to the consultation had been received from a member of the Vale of Glamorgan taxi and private hire trade, and this was broadly supportive of the proposed amendment.

The Committee was asked to determine whether to approve the proposed amendment, taking into consideration the consultation responses.

Committee Members made the following comments in relation to the report:

The Chair, although they did not have concerns regarding the proposed amendment, expressed disappointment that there had not been additional responses to the consultation from representatives of the taxi and private hire trade.

Councillors Marshallsea, Morgan and Franks advised that they could not foresee any issues being caused by approving the proposed amendment. Councillor Marshallsea added that they had not expected more consultation responses than those received, as the matter was not one which would affect many people. Councillor Morgan added that the proposal seemed quite safe, in their view.

It had been noted, when the matter was previously considered by this Committee, that the Taxi Driver who had requested the amendment would not use a CB radio while driving or while working as a Taxi.

With no further comments or queries, and no dissenting views put forward, Committee subsequently:

RESOLVED – T H A T, having considered the contents of the report and the consultation responses received, the proposed amendments to the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Conditions be approved, namely, to remove the following condition:

"A frequency scanner or CB radio shall not be fitted into or carried within any vehicle".

Reason for decision

Due to the Committee and the Police having no safety or other concerns that they could foresee relating to the proposed amendment, and as there had been no objections to it raised as part of the consultation.