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REGULATORY AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

9 MARCH 2022

PRESENT:

Councillors B Yeates (Chair), Anketell, Baker, Barnett, Cross, Eagland, L Ennis and Evans

18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Checkland, Cllr D Cross, Cllr A Little, Cllr Ray and Cllr Salter.

19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

20 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and approved as a correct record by the Chair.

21 WORK PROGRAMME

The committee noted the current contents of the work programme and were informed that this may be amended before the next meeting.

22 STREET TRADING POLICY REVIEW - CONSULTATION

The Head of Regulatory Services, Housing & Wellbeing presented the report to the committee, highlighting key points including but not limited to, the inclusion of seasonal and multi-site consents; clarifications on criminal disclosures and DBS checks; and exceptions relating to street trading for purely charitable purposes. It was recommended the committee grant the authority to the Chair and Vice-chair to make any necessary minor amendments in consultation with the relevant Head of Service.

Members praised the report and were happy to be assured that the consultation would include Lichfield, Burntwood and all other parishes in the district.

It was confirmed that school fetes would not be required to notify the district council that their event was due to take place, subject to the organisers being confident that their event meets the criteria set out in the policy.

RESOLVED – That the committee agrees to the recommendations set out in the report.

23 HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY

The Partnership, Community Safety & Licensing Manager presented the report to the committee.

Members expressed continued concern about the vulnerability of disabled and visually impaired individuals but acknowledged these were difficult to rectify. It was noted that the authority does require all drivers to undertake safeguarding training and have begun disability awareness training to encourage good practice.

It was confirmed that emission exemption certificates are from any charge.

Members also encouraged the authority to focus on a wide range of diversity factors, from learning difficulties to differing ethnicities, when conducting 'mystery shopping' in relation to taxis in the district,

RESOLVED - That members agreed to the proposed amendments set out in the report.

(The Meeting closed at 6.31 pm)

CHAIR