

Cunninghame House, Irvine.

26 October 2017

Licensing Committee

You are requested to attend a Special Meeting of the above mentioned Committee of North Ayrshire Council to be held in the Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine on **WEDNESDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2017** at **10.00 A.M.** to consider the undernoted business.

Yours faithfully

Elma Murray

Chief Executive

1. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to give notice of any declarations of interest in respect of items of business on the Agenda.

2. Minutes (Page 4)

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meetings held on 13 September 2017 will be confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (copy enclosed).

- 3. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982: Taxi Fare Scales Review (Page 10)
 Submit report by the Chief Executive on the statutory process for Review for taxi fare scales in North Ayrshire (copy enclosed).
- 4. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982: Licensing Matters (Page 26)
 Submit report by the Chief Executive on hearings to be determined and applications for the grant or renewal of licences and permits, all in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (copy enclosed).

5. Public Processions under Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, Part V (Sections 62 to 66) (Page 32)

Submit report by the Chief Executive on a Procession Notification which has been received (copy enclosed).

6. Landlord Registration under the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004, Part 8 (Page 38)

Submit report by the Chief Executive on landlord registration matters (copy enclosed).

7. Urgent Items

Any other items which the Chair considers to be urgent.

Licensing Committee

Chair: ir) Attending:
Apologies:
Meeting Ended:

Licensing Committee 13 September 2017

IRVINE, 13 September 2017 - At a Meeting of the Licensing Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.00 a.m.

Present

Ronnie McNicol, Robert Barr, Todd Ferguson, Scott Gallacher, Jean McClung, Davina McTiernan and Donald L. Reid.

In Attendance

C. Andrew, Senior Manager (Legal Services), K. Sharkey, Solicitor (Contracts and Licensing), C. Pollock, Licensing Administration Officer and M. Anderson, Committee Services Team Leader (Chief Executive's Service).

Also In Attendance

Inspector B. Skimming and Sergeant A. Jackson (Police Scotland).

Chair

Councillor McNicol in the Chair.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 10 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

2. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 16 August 2017 was confirmed, and the Minutes were signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. Urgent Item

The Chair agreed that the Committee consider a verbal report in respect of an Public Entertainment Licence as a matter of urgency in order to allow the matter to be progressed without delay.

In terms of Standing Order 9.3, the Chair further agreed to vary the order of business to allow consideration of the urgent item immediately prior to Agenda Item 3 (Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982: Taxi Fare Review).

3.1 Public Entertainment Licence: PEL/478 - Harrison Stirling

The Solicitor (Contracts and Licensing) advised the Committee of matters relating to a Public Entertainment Licensing application received for a fairground event proposed to take place on 16 September 2017 at South Beach in Ardrossan and in respect of which two objections had been received.

The Committee agreed (a) on the basis of the information presented, to proceed to a Hearing in terms of Paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982; and (b) that the matter be considered at a Special Meeting of the Committee to be held at 2.00 p.m. on 19 September 2017.

4. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982: Taxi Fare Review

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on progress in terms of the current taxi fare review.

At its last meeting held on 16 August 2017, the Committee approved a timetable for the review and fixing of taxi scales and agreed that arrangements be made for trade consultation with taxi operators. This meeting took place on 1 September 2017 and a Minute was attached as Appendix A to the report. A draft of proposed scales was set out out at Appendix B.

The Chair referred to two minor typographical errors in the proposed scales set out at Appendix B, namely:-

- the heading relating to Tariff 1 should read "Tariff 1 (Day) (Tariff 5 if more than 4 passengers carried" and
- the heading for Tariff 2 should read "Tariff 2 (Nights and Sundays and during day across Zones) (Tariff 6 if more than 4 passengers carried)".

The Committee agreed to (a) approve in draft the scale set out in Appendix B to the report, as amended; (b) instruct the Chief Executive to give public notice of the draft scale; and (c) continue consideration of the review until a further meeting of the Committee at least one month after issue of the public notice.

5. Exclusion of the Public

The Committee resolved, under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude from the Meeting, the press and the public for the following items of business, on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Section 50J of and Schedule 7A to the Local Government Act 1983. The 'Exempt Information' concerned is that described in Section 7A, Paragraph 6 ("Information relating to the financial business affairs of any particular person (other than the authority)") and Paragraph 14 ("Any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime").

6. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982: Licensing Matters

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on Hearings to be determined and applications for the grant or renewal of licences and permits, all in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

Part A: Hearings

6.1 Taxi Driver's Licence: TDL/02030 (New) - James McMeekin

The Committee, at its meeting on 16 August 2017, agreed, on the basis of the information presented, to proceed to a Hearing in terms of Paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

The applicant, having been duly cited to attend, was present. Representatives of Police Scotland were also in attendance.

The representatives of Police Scotland addressed the Committee on a letter setting out an objection to the application. Thereafter, the applicant addressed the Committee on the issues raised and responded to questions.

The Solicitor (Contracts and Licensing) advised that the applicant had included within his application convictions which he was not obliged to declare, and invited the Committee to consider whether, in determining the application, it deemed it necessary to have regard to those convictions or only to those set out in the Police Scotland letter. The Committee agreed to determine the application on the basis of the convictions set out in the Police Scotland letter only.

Thereafter, the applicant and representatives of Police Scotland withdrew to allow the Committee to deliberate, returning to hear the Committee's decision.

Decision

Councillor Barr, seconded by Councillor Reid, moved that the application be refused in terms of Paragraph 5(3)(a)(ii) of Schedule 1 to the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 on the ground that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to the be holder of the licence. There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

6.2 Taxi Driver's Licence: TDL/02026 (New) - Scott William Walker

The Committee, at its meeting on 16 August 2017, agreed, on the basis of the information presented, to proceed to a Hearing in terms of Paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

The applicant, having been duly cited to attend, was present. Representatives of Police Scotland were also in attendance.

The representatives of Police Scotland addressed the Committee on a letter setting out a representation in respect of the application. Thereafter, the applicant addressed the Committee on the issues raised and responded to questions.

The applicant and representatives of Police Scotland then withdrew to allow the Committee to deliberate, returning to hear the Committee's decision.

Decision

Councillor McClung, seconded by Councillor Gallacher, moved that the application be granted in terms of Paragraph 5(1)(a) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 for a period of one year. There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

6.3 Taxi Driver's Licence: TDL/00731 (New) - Steven Kelly

The applicant, having been duly cited to attend, was present.

The Solicitor (Licensing) set out the background to the hearing, and the terms of a letter from the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency containing a restriction to the applicant's licence. The applicant then addressed the Committee on the issues raised and responded to questions.

Decision

The Committee unanimously agreed (a) that the application be granted in terms of Paragraph 5(1)(a) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 until expiry of the applicant's current driving licence, namely 19 December 2017; and (b) to note that, in the event of applicant's driving licence being renewed without restriction on or before that date, consideration of an application for renewal of the applicant's Taxi Driver's Licence would be considered by officers under delegated powers.

6.4 Second Hand Dealer's Licence: SHDL/194 (New) - Gianpiero Narducci

The Committee, at its meeting on 16 August 2017, agreed, on the basis of the information presented, to proceed to a Hearing in terms of Paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

The applicant, having been duly cited to attend, was present.

The Solicitor (Licensing) set out the background to the hearing in terms of the lapse of a previous licence and matters relating to compliance with Electrical Safety Regulations and Pricing legislation. The applicant then addressed the Committee on the issues raised and responded to questions.

Decision

Councillor Barr, seconded by Councillor Reid, moved that the application be granted in terms of Paragraph 5(1)(a) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 for a period of three years. There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

6.5 Public Charitable Collection - Poppy Scotland

The applicant, having been duly cited to attend, was present. The applicant has applied for a Charitable Collection for the period 30 October - 12 November 2017, which is outwith the Council's policy.

The applicant, having been duly cited to attend, was not present or represented.

The Licensing Administration Officer set out the background to the hearing and responded to questions.

Decision

Having regard to Section 119(a) and (b) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Council's policy on street collections and the special circumstances of the application, Councillor Barr, seconded by Councillor McClung, moved that (a) the case should not be treated as an exception to the Policy; and (b) the application should be approved only in terms of those collection dates which complied with the Council's policy, namely Saturday 4 November and Saturday 11 November 2017. There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

Part B: Applications for Grant/Renewal of Licences

6.6 Taxi Driver's Licence: TDL/2049 (New) - Johnny Jack Lusk

The Committee unanimously agreed, on the basis of the information presented, to proceed to a Hearing in terms of Paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

6.7 Taxi Driver's Licence: TDL/2042 (New) - Ian Cartledge

The Committee unanimously agreed, on the basis of the information presented, to proceed to a Hearing in terms of Paragraph 4(2) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

PART C: Issues in respect of Existing Licences

6.8 Public Entertainment and Indoor Sports Licence: PEL/457 and ISEL/017 - North Ayrshire Leisure Limited

At its meeting held on 11 January 2017, the Committee unanimously agreed, in respect of the KA Leisure Limited premises at The Portal and Townhouse, to grant the two variation applications in terms of Paragraph 10 of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and to review the operation of the licensed facility within a period of six months following monitoring of the operation of the facility by the Council's Environmental Health Service, to determine whether or not the licences should be further varied.

The Licensing Administration Officer reported on the outcome of monitoring by the Council's Environmental Heath Service, which confirmed that no excessive noise had been witnessed in respect of the venues and no complaints received. As a result, no further variations to the licence were proposed.

Noted.

6.9 Taxi Driver's Licence: TDL/01274 - Cameron F.S. Phillips

At its meeting held on 2 November 2016, the Committee agreed to continue consideration of a Suspension Hearing in respect of the licence-holder to a future meeting, pending the outcome of legal proceedings.

The Licensing Administration Officer reported on a decision by the Procurator Fiscal not to call the case.

The Committee unanimously agreed, having regard to the information presented, not to take any action in respect of an 'Ordinary Suspension' of the licence under Paragraph 11 of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

7. Landlord Registration under the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004, Part 8

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the circumstances relating to applications for Landlord Registration under the 2004 Act:-

7.1 J.G.L

The Solicitor (Contracts and Licensing) set out matters relating to the Registered Landlord.

Decision

The Committee unanimously agreed to continue consideration of this matter to the next meeting of the Committee to allow a review hearing to take place.

The Meeting ended at 11.30 a.m.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 3

1 November 2017

Licensing Committee

Title: Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982: Taxi Fare

Scales Review

Purpose: To continue the statutory process for Review

Recommendation: That the Committee:

(a) consider representations on the proposed Scales,

(b) fix new Scales, and

(c) set a date on which the new Scales will become

effective.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 In terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Council as Licensing Authority is required to review the maximum fares that taxis operating within North Ayrshire may charge, and to set Scales. The 1982 Act requires that this should be done at maximum intervals of eighteen months.
- 1.2 It should be noted that the fares approved by the Council are maximum fares which may be charged and it is open to Operators to discount these rates if they wish. While it is obligatory to review fare levels periodically, there is no obligation to alter the existing fares.
- 1.3 The Review procedure proceeds in Stages, set by the 1982 Act. The Council must:
 - (a) consult with persons or organisations appearing to it to be, or to be representative of, the operators of taxis operating within its area (Section 17(4A)(a));
 - (b) following such consultation, review the existing Scales, and propose new Scales (whether at altered rates or the same rates) (Section 17(4A)(b));

- (c) publish those proposed Scales in a newspaper circulating in its area, setting out the proposed Scales (there is a period of at least one month after publication in which any person may make representations in writing) (Section 17(4A)(c));
- (d) consider any such representations and fix the new Scales (Section 17(4A)(d));
- (e) within 7 days give notice of the new Scales to taxi operators and trade organisations, and advise them of their right to Appeal. Within 14 days of that notice, an Appeal to the Traffic Commissioner may be made by any taxi operator or trade organisation (an Appeal postpones the operation of the new Scales); the Traffic Commissioner may decline to proceed with an appeal if he considers that the appellant's case is not representative of the view of a substantial proportion of the Operators of Taxis operating in the Council's area;
- (f) give newspaper notice to the public of the new Scales (if there is no appeal, after the 14 day appeal period; if there is an appeal, when it is abandoned or determined).

2. Background

- 2.1 The fare review process is now at Stage (d).
- 2.2 Earlier Stages were completed:

Stage (a) (trade consultation) took place on 1 September 2017 when Councillors Ronnie McNicoll (Convenor), Jean McClung, Donald L. Reid, Scott Gallagher, Davina McTiernan and Robert Barr met several taxi operators.

Stage (b) (proposal of new scales) took place on 13 September 2017, when the Committee met to review the existing Scales, and proposed new Scales.

- Stage (c) (newspaper publication of the proposed new Scales) happened soon after.
- 2.3 The matter is calling again after the statutory consultation period has expired.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Committee is now to fix a new set of Scales, and to set a date when the new Scales are to come into effect.
- 3.2 In fixing the new Scales, the Committee should reconsider the proposed Scales in the light of:

- (a) any representations received,
- (b) Government Guidance, and
- (c) economic statistical information.
- 3.3 On (a), at the date of preparing this Report (19 October 2017) there were no representations from the general public.
- 3.4 On (b), the Government Guidance is in "Taxi and Private Hire Car Licensing: Best Practice for Licensing Authorities", Second Edition, April 2012, Paragraph 6.2. This adopts the guidance in Scottish Development Department Circular 25/1986. The relevant part of that is Paragraph 2.37:

"The Secretary of State expects that in fixing fares authorities will want to pay primary regard to the costs incurred by the trade, having regard to the capital costs. (including interest payments) of the vehicles, the costs of maintaining and replacing them to the standards required by the licensing authority, the costs of employing drivers, and the prevailing levels of wages and costs in related road transport industries. In the Secretary of State's view the public interest is better served by ensuring the maintenance of an adequate taxi service by giving the trade a fair return than by depressing fares for social reasons, however understandable. If fares are fixed at a level higher than the market can stand, the trade is free to reduce them."

- On (c): the Office for National Statistics (ONS) publishes statistics of one of three types ("use cases"):
 - (a) The most common is the "Consumer Prices Index" (CPI);
 - (b) The ONS also publishes the "Consumer Prices Index including Housing costs" (CPIH). This is identical to the CPI, but includes Owner-Occupiers' Housing costs (the costs associated with owning, maintaining and living in one's own home "OOH");
 - (c) The ONS also publishes the "Retail Prices Index" (RPI). The ONS describes this as "a legacy measure that is required to meet existing user needs", since modern statistical practice results in a CPI rather than a RPI. The RPI is still calculated to allow comparision with older records (for example, the RPI for "oil and other fuel" has data for every month since January 1987).

The ONS publishes a monthly Statistical Bulletin. To allow comparision between different times, figures are given as an index, meaning that the figures are stated relative to a stated base year or (if possible) month. The base year or month always has a value of 100, so other times have values which are greater or less than 100 to show how they compare with the base year or month.

3.6 The most recent Statistical Bulletin was published on 17 October 2017 and shows United Kingdom consumer price inflation in September 2017. This Bulletin consists of an 'All Items Index', which indicates the overall trend in the national economy. The Bulletin also has many particular indices for different indicators (such as 'Purchase of Vehicles') so that trends in those can be seen.

The Bulletin includes:

- "• The Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH) 12-month inflation rate was 2.8% in September 2017, up from 2.7% in August 2017; it was last higher in March 2012.
- The main contributors to the increase in the rate were rising prices for food and recreational goods, along with transport costs, which fell by less than they did a year ago.
- These upward effects were partially offset by downward contributions from a range of goods and services, in particular clothing prices, which rose by less than they did a year ago.
- The Consumer Prices Index (CPI) 12-month rate was 3.0% in September 2017, up from 2.9% in August 2017; it was last higher in March 2012."
- 3.7 Following the Government Guidance quoted above, the Clerk has collected statistics on the four indicators which appear to be relevant to the Taxi Fare Review. It is open to anyone participating in the review process to suggest that the Licensing Committee should consider other factors.

The figures here are counted from when the Licensing Committee fixed the current Scales (on 12 August 2015). The Scales were revised by the Traffic Commissioner on 16 June 2016 but as this revision did not substantially change the size of the fares the figures are counted from the earlier date.

To assist comparision, the figures after the later values are adjusted so that the month when the Scales were set is taken as 100.

The indicators are:

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(a) CPI - All Items (Index D7BT)
August 2015 = 100.3
September 2017 = 104.1 (103.9)
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(b) CPIH - Purchase of Vehicles (Index 07.1)
2015 = 34
2017 = 37 (108.8)
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- (c) RPI oil and other fuel August 2015 = 306.9 September 2017 = 370.5 (120.7)
- (d) CPIH Maintenance and Repairs (Index 07-2-3) 2015 = 18 2017 = 20 (111.1)
- 3.8 The Committee should also determine when the new Scales will be effective. It is suggested that the effective date should be no earlier than 28 days after the date the Committee fixes the Scales. Within 7 days of the Committee decision Operators are to be notified (Stage (e)). Operators may appeal within 14 days. If there is no appeal, the Council is to carry out newspaper advertisement of the new Scales (Stage (f)). Since publication would be several local newspapers, with different publication dates, a single effective date should be chosen to ensure that sufficient notice is given to the public in all parts of North Ayrshire.

The date suggested is Monday 11 December 2017 (subject to any Appeal to the Traffic Commissioner).

4. Implications

Financial:	The taxi fare structure has substantial implications for both the trade and the community. In addition, legal costs to the Licensing Authority may arise if the fare review becomes subject to an appeal to the Traffic Commissioner, as regardless of the outcome of any appeal the Licensing Authority are obliged to meet the expenses of the Traffic Commissioner.
Human Resources:	None.
Legal:	Possible appeal to the Traffic Commissioner.
Equality:	The Clerk has considered the "Public Sector Equality Duty" and considers that there are no equalities impacts.
Environmental & Sustainability:	None.
Key Priorities:	An effective licensing system, e.g. monitoring the 'fit and proper' status of hire-car drivers and the safety of their cars, helps achieve Priority 4 of the North Ayrshire Council Plan 2015-2020, ("Supporting all of our people to stay safe, healthy and active").
Community Benefits:	Not applicable, as the Report does not relate to tendering or procurement exercises.

5. Consultation

5.1 The consultation required by statute has already taken place.

ELMA MURRAY Chief Executive

Reference: WOB/GEN17

For further information please contact William O'Brien, Solicitor (Licensing)

on on 01294-324305.

Background Papers

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Current Scale from 1 August 2016

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 (AS AMENDED BY THE CRIMINAL LAW AND LICENSING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010), SECTION 17(2) - TAXI FARE REVIEW

Scales fixed by the Licensing Committee on 12 August 2015 and revised by the Traffic Commissioner on 16 June 2016.

MAXIMUM TAXI FARES EFFECTIVE FROM MONDAY 1 AUGUST 2016.

Tariff 1 (Day) (Tariff 4 if more than 4 passengers carried)

All journeys starting or ending in the period 06.00 a.m. to 24.00 p.m. (midnight) (except where Tariffs 2 or 3 apply):

Initial Charge - For a distance not exceeding 1,320 yards (¾ of a mile) (or waiting time not exceeding 10 minutes) - £2.60.

Additional Charge: Each additional 1/17 of a mile (about 104 yards) or additional waiting time of up to 25 seconds - 10p.

Tariff 2 (Nights and Sundays and across Zones) (Tariff 5 if more than 4 passengers carried)

All journeys (except where Tariff 3 applies):

- starting or ending in the period 24.00 p.m. (midnight) to 06.00 a.m., or
- starting or ending at any time on Sundays
- From the Zone for which the vehicle is licensed to another Zone in North Ayrshire

Initial Charge - For a distance not exceeding 1,320 yards (¾ of a mile) (or waiting time not exceeding 10 minutes) - £3.00.

Additional Charge: Each additional 1/18 of a mile (about 98 yards) or additional waiting time of up to 25 seconds - 10p.

Tariff 3 (Festive Periods) (Tariff 6 if more than 4 passengers carried)

All journeys starting or ending at any time on 25th or 26th December or 1st or 2nd January:

Double Tariff 1 Charges (Initial and Additional).

Extra Charges

- 1. If the vehicle starts by carrying more than 4 passengers, the fare is charged as Tariff 1, 2 or 3 (as appropriate) but with 50% added (Tariffs 4, 5 or 6). The higher Tariff applies until the hire ends, whether or not any of the passengers leave the vehicle earlier.
- 2. Soiling Charge £50.

Notes

- 1. The fare scale applies only to journeys which end within North Ayrshire. Fares for journeys beyond the Council area are not set by the Council. They should be agreed between the passenger and the driver before the start of the journey.
- 2. Luggage shall be carried free if it is of a size which can reasonably be accommodated in the car.
- 3. The metered charge is the maximum which can be charged. The driver can always charge less.
- 4. The Tariff 2 charge applies as soon as the journey starts, and it does not change if part of the journey is inside the Night Period or Sunday and part outside.

North Ayrshire Council

Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982: Taxi Fare Scales Review

Minute of meeting on 1 September 2017 between members of Licensing Committee and meeting to consult with operators of taxis operating within the Council area (Section 17(4A)(a)) in the "Irvine and Kilwinning" Meeting Room at Council Headquarters, Cunninghame House, Irvine.

Before the meeting the Committee members were sent copies of written representations from:

- 1. Ms. Christine Boyd, Brisbane Taxis dated 25 August 2017
- 2. Irvine TOA dated 31 Aug 2017

The Committee also had documents:

- (a) setting out the Fare Scales in North Ayrshire, East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire.
- (b) quoting Government Guidance and data from the Office of National Statistics.
- (c) estimating the effect on fares of a number of possible changes.

All operators attending the meeting were given copies of documents (a) to (c).

Shortly before the meeting Irvine TOA lodged a further representation, amending the earlier one, and Members were given copies of this. Members were advised that the estimates in document (c) could (as far as that proposal was concerned) be recalculated if required.

The Meeting started at 12.00.

Members of the Committee:

Councillors Ronnie McNicoll (Convenor), Jean McClung, Donald L. Reid, Scott Gallagher, Davina McTiernan and Robert Barr.

Also present were Aileen Craig, Team Manager (Litigation) and William O'Brien, Solicitor (Licensing).

Trade representatives:

Michael Cassidy (Licence 239) Scott Dalzell (1150) Rose McLaughlan (20) Norman (Norrie) Campbell (7) Martin Cruickshank (96) Graham Ross (218) Malcolm (Malkie) McGregor (81) Alan Mackie (179) John Russell (131)

Norrie Campbell

The Irvine TOA wanted:

- 20p added to the flagfall
- Tariff 2 to apply on Boxing Day and 2nd January, and Good Friday and Easter Monday
- 'night' to extend to 7.00 a.m.

He said that some drivers don't even get the National Minimum wage of £60.

Convenor

He observed that there was no-one from Largs, and he read out Ms. Boyd's proposals.

Jim McKerrell

He mainly agreed with Norrie Campbell & Ms. Boyd.

He wanted:

- to add 20p to the flagfall
- to add 20p to the mileage charge
- to extend the night period to 7.00 a.m. from 6.00
- to reinstate the Bank Holidays which had been in earlier Scales

He said that the Council's decision last time about revising Tariff 2 had led to a Petition to the Traffic Commissioner. He was not interested in the Taxi Scales in East and South Ayrshire.

He also referred to the Ian Roderickson case to the Traffic Commissioner. He said that the TC had said that the case should never have come to an appeal.

Of the present Scales, he said " if it's not broken, don't change it".

Convenor

He said to the Trade that he was happy to reach consensus "I don't want an appeal, it costs you and us money. We want to know what you think."

Jim McKerrell

He said that the Trade were not asking for lottery figures.

Norrie Cambell

He said that the flagfall had not increased 4 years (the Convenor said 5 years) and he said that surely a Taxi Driver should be making the National Minimum Wage.

The Trade had made little money on Boxing Day and 2 January because the public realised that taxis were charging double fare, so they just didn't take taxis.

Alan Mackie

He agreed that the Flagfall should be increased and he agrees on the New Years Day and Boxing double fare issue. His business was halved on those days. Those days should go back to Tariff 2.

He said the Committee should reinstate Bank Holiday Friday and Monday - any other workers would get double time on those days.

Malcolm McGregor

Referring to the Traffic Commissioner, he said that the Council had cost the Trade thousands, and the Trade had won two appeals. They cannot afford another.

He agreed with the proposal to increase the Flagfall by 20 p. The Mileage should increase 10p or 20p.

He said that Tariff 2 should stay as it was, but it should be charged from 7.00 pm on Christmas Eve and Hogmanay.

He suggested the Zone-crossing charge after midnight should be added, perhaps Fare + 50% or +25%

Otherwise he agreed with Norrie Campbell.

Graham Ross

He agreed with Malcolm McGregor.

Jim McKerrell

He agree about what was said about the Zone-crossing charge after midnight.

He'd agree to charge higher fares from 7.00 pm the night before on Christmas Eve and Hogmanay.

Norrie Campbell

He pointed out to other operators that they could charge less than the Scales, and that sometimes they might want to agree a fare at the start and get the money up front, instead of trying to get the passenger to pay the metered fare at the end of the journey.

Alan Mackie

He suggested that Tariff 3 should be reinstated, giving extra fares at night across Zones.

Michael Cassidy

To the Committee he said: Last time we were deceived. We weren't listened to. How can we trust you? We expect to be treated fairly.

Convenor

He repeated that the Committee wanted the Trade's opinions.

Malkie McGregor

He summarised the Trade's proposals:

Tariff 1 flagfall should increase 20 p, mileage should increase 10 p.

Tariff 2 should be £3.20, mileage £1.90.

Tariff 2 should be charged:

- On Sunday
- On Christmas Eve from 7.00 and Hogmanay from 7.00
- On the seven statutory holidays
- cross zones BEFORE midnight (Tariff 3 AFTER, to 7.00)

Tariff 3 should be for crossing Zones after midnight, and should be Tariff 1 plus 50%.

There should be double fare on Xmas Day and New Year's Day.

The soiling charge should stay the same.

There was consensus from the Trade that this was their position.

Norrie Campbell

He pointed out that a long journey at night could be costly to the driver as it effectively meant that the driver would take a long time to get back to the rank.

Councillor Barr

He recalled that at the last review the Trade were asking for double fares on two days at each of Xmas and New Year.

Alan Mackie

I thought the last 'consultation' was presented as a done deal.

Councillor Gallagher

He asked if the Trade were asking for higher fares for Bank Holidays

Malkie McGregor

Yes

The meeting ended at 12.37.

Proposed Taxi Fare Scales (adopted under Section 17(4A)(b) and advertised for at least one month in local newspapers under Section 17(4A)(c))

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NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 (AS AMENDED BY THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND LICENSING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010)

These Scales will come into force on Monday 11 December 2017.

Tariff 1 (Day) (Tariff 5 if more than 4 passengers carried)

All journeys starting or ending in the period 07.00 a.m. to 24.00 p.m. (midnight) (except where Tariffs 2 or 3 apply):

Initial Charge (Flagfall) - For a distance not exceeding 1,320 yards (¾ of a mile) (or waiting time not exceeding 10 minutes) - £2.80.

Additional Charge (Mileage): Each additional 1/18 of a mile (about 98 yards) or additional waiting time of up to 25 seconds - 10p.

Tariff 2 (Nights and Sundays and during day across Zones) (Tariff 6 if more than 4 passengers carried)

All journeys (except where Tariff 3 applies):

- starting or ending in the period 24.00 p.m. (midnight) to 07.00 a.m.
- starting or ending at any time on Sundays
- starting or ending at any time on these Public Holidays:

2 January Good Friday Early May Bank Holiday Spring Bank Holiday Summer Bank Holiday 30 November (St Andrew's Day) 26 December (Boxing Day)

If a Bank Holiday is on a weekend, the following Monday is treated for this Tariff as a Bank Holiday

- From the Zone for which the vehicle is licensed to another Zone in North Ayrshire
- if the journey starts or ends in the period 07.00 a.m. to 24.00 p.m. (midnight).
- On Christmas Eve and Hogmanay from 7.00 p.m. until 24.00 p.m. (midnight)

Fares:

Initial Charge - For a distance not exceeding 1,320 yards ($\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile) (or waiting time not exceeding 10 minutes) - £3.20.

Additional Charge: Each additional 1/19 of a mile (about 93 yards) or additional waiting time of up to 25 seconds - 10p.

Tariff 3 (during night across Zones) (Tariff 7 if more than 4 passengers carried)

From the Zone for which the vehicle is licensed to another Zone in North Ayrshire - if the journey starts or ends in the period 24.00 p.m. (midnight) to 07.00 a.m.:

Tariff 1 charges (Initial and Additional) plus 50%.

Tariff 4 (Festive Periods) (Tariff 8 if more than 4 passengers carried)

All journeys starting or ending at any time on 25th December or 1st January:

Double Tariff 1 Charges (Initial and Additional).

Extra Charges

- 1. If the vehicle starts by carrying more than 4 passengers, the fare is charged as Tariff 1 to 4 (as appropriate) but with 50% added (Tariffs 4 to 8). The higher Tariff applies until the hire ends, whether or not any of the passengers leave the vehicle earlier.
- 2. Soiling Charge £50.

<u>Notes</u>

1. The fare scale applies only to journeys which end within North Ayrshire. Fares for journeys beyond the Council area are not set by the Council. They should be agreed between the passenger and the driver before the start of the journey.

- 2. Luggage shall be carried free if it is of a size which can reasonably be accommodated in the car.
- 3. The metered charge is the maximum which can be charged. The driver can always charge less.
- 4. The Tariff 2 and 3 charges apply as soon as the journey starts, and do not change if part of the journey is inside the Night Period, Sunday, Public Holiday, or Zone and part outside.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 4

1 November 2017

Licensing Committee

Title:	Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and other
	Licensing statutes: Licensing Matters

Purpose: To advise the Committee of

- (a) Hearings to be determined;
- (b) Applications for the grant or renewal of licences and permits; and
- (c) Issues arising in respect of existing licences,

under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and other statutes within the Committee's remit.

Recommendation:

That the Committee consider and determine the matters before them.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The Licensing Committee's remit is to exercise the Council's licensing functions. These functions arise under many statutes, mainly the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. Depending on the legislation and the circumstances of each individual case, the Committee is entitled to grant, refuse, renew, vary, suspend and revoke Licences.

2. Background

2.1 The Committee's business under the 1982 Act is detailed in three Appendices:

Appendix A: Licences and Permits where Hearings have been convened;

Appendix B: Applications for the grant or renewal of Licences and Permits

Appendix C: Issues in respect of existing Licences and Permits.

3. Proposals

3.1 It is proposed that the Committee consider and determine each of the listed cases in accordance with the required procedures.

4. Implications

Financial:	There are possible financial implications in relation to any Licensing decision.
Human Resources:	None.
Legal:	There are possible legal implications in relation to any licensing decision. Depending on the legislation, there may be a right of appeal.
Equality:	The Clerk has considered the "Public Sector Equality Duty" in preparing the Appendices and any specific equalities impacts will be evaluated where appropriate. Unless the Clerk advises the Committee otherwise in a particular case, there are no significant equalities impacts to be considered.
Environmental & Sustainability:	None.
Key Priorities:	An effective licensing system, e.g. monitoring the 'fit and proper' status of hire-car drivers and the safety of their cars, helps achieve Priority 4 of the North Ayrshire Council Plan 2015-2020, ("Supporting all of our people to stay safe, healthy and active").
Community Benefits:	Not applicable, as the Report does not relate to tendering or procurement exercises.

5. Consultation

5.1 Consultations have been undertaken where appropriate with Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue, and Council Directorates.

ELMA MURRAY Chief Executive

Elva Murray

Reference: WOB

For further information please contact William O'Brien, Solicitor (Licensing)

on 01294-324305.

Background Papers

None.

APPENDIX A

Hearings

HEARING NUMBER	APPLICANT & ADDRESS	COMMENTS
1	Taxi Driver's Licence Johnny Jack Lusk 31 Pavilion Gardens Girdle Toll Irvine KA11 2FH	TDL/2049 (NEW)
2	Taxi Driver's Licence lan Cartledge 13 Prestonfield Avenue Kilwinning KA13 6TT	TDL/2042 (NEW)
3	Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, Schedule 1, Paragraph 6 Charlene McIver 10 Auchenharvie Road Saltcoats KA21 5RL	Request for permission to re-apply for TDL
4	Public Charitable Collection Royal British Legion Scotland, Largs Branch Stuart Rumble 2C Kelvin Street Largs KA30 9BE	
5	Public Charitable Collection Hansel Sheila McLean 9 Maberry Place Troon KA10 7LA	

APPENDIX B

Applications for the Grant or Renewal of Licences and Permits

APPLICATION TYPE	APPLICANT	REFERENCE No.
Taxi Driver's Licence (Renewal)	George Williams 19 Hunter Drive Irvine KA11 9BE	TDL/00792

APPENDIX C

Issues in respect of existing Licences and Permits

Licence Numbers Licenceholder

TL/194 & TDL/01355 Michael Ferguson

51 Hunter Drive

Irvine KA12 9BP

Licence Numbers Licenceholder

TL/106, TL/088 & TDL/00580 William Grant

26c Moorpark Road West

Steventson KA20 3HU

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 5

1 November 2017

Licensing Committee

Title: Public Processions under Civic Government

(Scotland) Act 1982, Part V (Sections 62 to 66)

Purpose: To advise Committee of a Procession Notification received.

Recommendation: That the Committee should decide whether or not a

Procession should either be prohibited or should proceed

subject to conditions.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Licensing Committee exercises the functions of the Council as "Licensing Authority" under many statutes, including the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.
- 1.2 As well as covering the licensing of Hire Cars and many other commercial activities (e.g. running a food stall or a fairground a "place of public entertainment"), the 1982 Act also regulates Public Processions. The approach with Public Processions is different from the licensing of commercial activities:
 - If a person wants to drive a Taxi etc., he/she must apply to the Council for a Licence, and he/she cannot start doing the activity unless and until the Council agrees;
 - If a person wishes to organise a Public Procession, he/she notifies the Council and the Police of the proposal. This is notification, rather than requesting permission. There is no "Procession Licence". All citizens have a right to participate in Public Processions, and the Council can only restrict the exercise of that right in limited circumstances (see below) generally the Council will only restrict Processions where there is a serious risk to public order or public safety which the Police cannot control. The Council cannot restrict a Procession solely because the participants express a controversial opinion.
- 1.3 The Council's functions in relation to Processions are set out in Section 63(1):

"The Local Authority may, after consulting the Chief Constable and (where section 62(1)(aa) of this Act applies) the National Park Authority in respect of a Procession notice of which has been given or falls to be treated as having been given in accordance with Section 62(1) of this Act, make an order—

- (i) prohibiting the holding of the Procession; or
- (ii) imposing conditions on the holding of it."
- 1.4. Because of the different approach to the regulation of Processions, what happens when an Organiser proposes a Procession is this:
 - (a) he/she gives the Council's Licensing Office a Notification form.
 - (b) The form
 - should be lodged at least 28 days before the proposed Procession;
 - supplies details like the expected number of participants, the date and time, the proposed route, the names of any bands playing, and the purpose of the Procession;
 - is advertised on the Council's website. (There is no right of objection by the public, and the aim of advertisement is to inform the public that a Procession is to take place).
 - (c) The Council's Roads Section and the Police advise the Licensing Office on the possible presence of the statutory grounds for prohibition or the attachment of conditions. The level of Council/Police engagement with the Organiser depends on the size of the proposed Procession; sometimes they meet the Organiser, although in many cases this is not necessary. If Council/Police think this is appropriate, they might propose to vary the route and timings of the Procession, but the Organiser is not obliged to accept;
 - (d) In the vast majority of cases the Procession proceeds according to the Notification, subject only to the Council's Standard Conditions. The case is not referred to the Licensing Committee, but instead the Clerk exercises Delegated Powers to issue a letter to the Organiser confirming that the Procession can proceed;
 - (e) In very rare cases, the Council/Police supply information indicating that any of the statutory grounds for prohibition or the attachment of conditions exist. The case is then referred to the Licensing Committee for a decision.

2. Background

2.1 The Council has received a Procession Notification from "East Kilbride Celtic Symphony Supporters Club". The proposal is for a Procession starting at 8.00 a.m. on Saturday 11 November 2017. A group of 30-40 people are to walk from West Kilbride to East Kilbride. The Notification describes it as 'a charity walk to raise money for Yorkhill Hospital' and they estimate the walk will take 11 or 12 hours. The Organiser will have 4 stewards wearing high-visibility clothing. The Notification form the Council issues asks Organisers what Bands are playing, but here the response is 'n/a'.

2.2 The Notification states the proposed route as:

B781 & B780 (West Kilbride to Dalry Road) Courthill Street (Dalry) A737 B777 (Beith to Lugton) B775, A736 and A727.

2.3 The Network Section of the Council's Roads Department has commented:

"North Ayrshire Council & Police Scotland will not approve or support this charity fundraising work on high speed roads (i.e. B781 / B780 / A737, B777, B775, A736, A727) due to serious road safety concerns.

The organisers should reconsider their proposed route seek an alternative safe and pedestrian friendly walking route, ie cycle routes, or ones with footpaths or footways.

It must also be noted that the A737 is a trunk road and not the responsibility of NAC, sections of the B775 / A736 / A727 also fall outwith NAC responsibility."

3. Proposals

3.1 Section 63(8) of the 1982 Act states what considerations the Council is to consider:

"The considerations to which the Local Authority shall have regard when deciding whether to prohibit the holding of a procession or impose conditions on it under this section shall include—

- (a) the likely effect of the holding of the procession in relation to—
 - (i) public safety;
 - (ii) public order;
 - (iii) damage to property;
 - (iv) disruption of the life of the community;
- (b) the extent to which the containment of risks arising from the procession would (whether by itself or in combination with any other circumstances) place an excessive burden on the police;
- (c) where the person proposing to hold the procession has previously held one in the area of the authority or the persons likely to take part in the procession, or some of them, are the same persons as took part in one previously held in that area, or some of them—
 - (i) whether the previous procession was held in breach of a prohibition under this section on its being held or of a condition so imposed on the holding of it;
 - (ii) whether any guidance or code of conduct issued by the authority as

- to the holding of the previous procession or as to the holding of processions generally was followed; and
- (iii) the effect of the previous procession in relation to the matters mentioned in sub-paragraphs (i) to (iv) of paragraph (a) above and in paragraph (b) above."
- These are considerations, but they are only factors to be taken into account. For example, one of the considerations is "disruption of the life of the community". Any Procession might cause some disruption, particularly if the route is on busy roads, is through a busy residential or commercial area, or if the hours are early in the morning. It does not follow that the Procession should be prohibited altogether. The Council should consider whether any Conditions (e.g. altering route or timing) would strike a balance between the rights of the Procession participants and the residents or business owners.
- 3.3 The Council should also take into account:
 - (a) Guidance issued by the Scottish Government "Guidance for Scottish Local Authorities Review of Marches and Parades in Scotland" was issued in December 2006 (e.g. in assessing "excessive burden on the police" under Paragraph (b), Police costs are not a consideration: 2006 Guidance, Paragraph 27).
 - (b) The Council as a 'Public Authority' is bound to have regard to the Convention Rights. Under the Human Rights Act 1998, Section 6(1), it is unlawful for a Public Authority to act in a way which is incompatible with a Convention Right. The participants in the Procession will be exercising rights under the European Convention on Human Rights:

Article 10 - Freedom of expression

Article 11 - Freedom of assembly and association

3.4 These Rights are:

"Article 10. - Freedom of expression

- Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers. This Article shall not prevent States from requiring the licensing of broadcasting, television or cinema enterprises.
- 2. The exercise of these freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

Article 11. - Freedom of assembly and association

- 1. Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and to freedom of association with others, including the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.
- 2. No restrictions shall be placed on the exercise of these rights other than such as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others. This Article shall not prevent the imposition of lawful restrictions on the exercise of these rights by members of the armed forces, of the police or of the administration of the State. "
- 3.5 If the Council considers that the Procession should be prohibited unless the proposal is modified or Conditions attached, the Council should advise the Organiser of what modifications or Conditions the Council thinks appropriate, invite him/her to comment, and have regard to those comments.

4. Implications

	N TI ' () () () () () ()
Financial:	None. There is no fee payable to the Council in
	relation to Processions.
Human Resources:	None.
Legal:	An Organiser who is aggrieved at the prohibition of a Procession or the attachment of Conditions may appeal to the Sheriff.
	Neither the Police nor the public can appeal if the Council declines to prohibit a Procession or attach
	Conditions.
Equality:	The Clerk has considered this particular Notification in the context of the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty (the "equality duty" obliging the Council to have due regard to the matters mentioned in section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010 relating to people who have "Relevant Protected Characteristics") and has the opinion that no Equality Impact Assessment is necessary.
Environmental &	•
	None.
Sustainability:	
Key Priorities:	None.
Community Benefits:	Not applicable, as the Report does not relate to tendering or procurement exercises.

5. Consultation

5.1 Consultations have been carried out as above described.

ELMA MURRAY Chief Executive

Elva Murray

Reference: GEN01/GEN22

For further information please contact William O'Brien, Solicitor (Licensing)

on 01294 324305

Background Papers

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NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 6

1 November 2017

Licensing Committee

Title: Landlord Registration under the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004, Part 8.

Purpose: To inform the Committee of Landlord Registration matters.

Recommendation:

- 1. That the Committee should decide whether or not to make a Resolution excluding the public from the meeting at which this Report and its Schedules is to be considered:
- 2. For each Application or Review Proposal described in the Schedules: That the Committee should consider each case and:
- (a) decide whether or not the Application should be granted, or the Relevant Person should be removed from the Register;
- (b) if appropriate, decide whether or not to issue a Notice under Section 94 (commonly known as a 'Rent Penalty Notice') in respect of any house, or to delegate authority to the Clerk to issue such a Notice.

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The Licensing Committee has delegated authority from the Council to administer the Council's functions under the Landlord Registration Scheme regulated by the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004, Part 8.

2. Background

2.1. The Clerk has received information set out in the Schedules. This information suggests that there may be a basis for the Committee concluding that the Landlord is not 'fit and proper', and that either the Application should be refused or the Registration already granted should be removed.

2.2. The Schedules are marked "Not for Publication" and are excluded from the published Agenda under Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, Section 50B(2) and (5). This has been done as the Clerk considers that the meeting is likely not to be open to the public while those Schedules are being considered, as they contain "Exempt Information" described in Schedule 7A to the Act. The Schedules are in the background papers given to Committee Members and will be sent to the respective Landlords before the Meeting.

3. Proposals

- 3.1. The Committee should consider each case and decide whether or not to grant the Application, or remove the Registration.
- 3.2. If the Committee decides to refuse an Application, or to remove a Registration, and if it is satisfied that the house is presently occupied by a Tenant, it should then decide whether or not to issue a Notice under Section 94 (commonly known as a 'Rent Penalty Notice' or 'RPN') in respect of any house referred to in the Application or Registration.
- 3.3. If it is are not so satisfied, it may delegate authority to the Clerk to issue a RPN if and when the Clerk is so satisfied. Given that there would be nothing to stop the Landlord receiving Housing Benefit even if he/she was unregistered, the Committee may wish to delegate authority to the Clerk to issue a RPN if the Clerk later receives information that any house which is currently covered by the Registration is occupied by a Tenant.

4. Implications

Financial:	If a RPN is issued, the Housing Benefit Office will
	be informed, so that the Landlord will no longer
	receive Housing Benefit.
Human Resources:	None.
Legal:	Where the Council makes any decision to refuse or revoke Registration, to make a RPN, or to refuse to recall a RPN, the Landlord may appeal to the Sheriff or the First Tier Tribunal.
	If the Council issues a RPN, only the Tenant's liability to pay rent will cease. The other rights and obligations of the Lease will be unaffected: Section 94(3) & (8).
	For example: (a) the Tenant will continue to have whatever security of tenure he already had (he cannot be evicted for non-payment of rent where that non-payment is due to the RPN); (b) the Landlord will only be entitled to evict the Tenant if the Sheriff grants a Decree; (c) the Landlord continues to have repairing obligations.
	If a RPN is revoked by the Sheriff or Tribunal on appeal by the Landlord, the Tenant only has to pay 'arrears' of rent if, and to the extent, ordered. If a RPN is revoked by the Council then 'arrears' are not due (Section 95(3)).
Equality:	The Clerk has considered the "Public Sector Equality Duty" in preparing this report and any specific equalities impacts will be evaluated where appropriate. Unless the Clerk advises the Committee otherwise in a particular case, there are no significant equalities impacts to be considered.
Environmental &	None.
Sustainability:	
Key Priorities:	None.
Community Benefits:	Preventing unfit Landlords from operating may contribute to the wellbeing of the community. Preventing Housing Benefit being paid to unregistered Landlords safeguards public funds.

5. Consultation

5.1 No consultations are appropriate. Depending on the circumstances, the Schedules contain information supplied by the Police, North Ayrshire Council Directorates, or other agencies.

ELMA MURRAY Chief Executive

Elva Murray

Reference: WOB

For further information please contact William O'Brien, Solicitor (Licensing)

on 01294-324305.

Background Papers

None