

Licensing Committee  
2 March 2010

**IRVINE, 2 March 2010** - At a Meeting of the Licensing Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 2.00 p.m.

**Present**

William Gibson, Elisabeth Marshall, Robert Barr, Ian Clarkson, John Moffat, Ryan Oldfather and Joan Sturgeon.

**In Attendance**

N. Alexander, Chief Legal Officer and A. Toal, Administrative Assistant (Licensing and District Court) (Legal and Protective); G. Mitchell, Internal Transport Garage Manager (Finance and Infrastructure Service); and A Little, Committee Services Officer (Chief Executive's Service).

**Also In Attendance**

Representatives from the taxi trade.

**Chair**

Councillor Gibson in the Chair.

**Apologies for Absence**

Ruby Kirkwood.

**1. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982**

The Chair welcomed the representatives from the taxi trade to the Licensing Committee and explained that the meeting would provide an opportunity for the Committee to gather information on a range of licensing issues and for discussion to take place on a number of associated areas. A report outlining any proposals arising from the discussions will be submitted to the next meeting of the Licensing Committee for consideration.

Thereafter, discussion took place on the following areas:-

- Licence fees;
- Duration of licences;
- Signage and advertising on vehicles;
- Substitute vehicles;
- Taxi Fare Review;
- Vehicle inspections and facilities at Byrehill Garage; and
- Age capping of vehicles.

The Committee agreed that a report be submitted to the next meeting on:-

- The availability of a one-year licence with an appropriate pro-rata fee;
- The requirement for varying tests for taxi vehicles;
- At what stage new vehicles require a MOT and/or roadworthiness certificate;
- The application of a substitute vehicle fee at the expiry and renewal of the licence;
- The application of one fee per advert regardless of how often it is displayed;
- The replacement of the North Ayrshire Council Taxi roof sign with a smaller, locally produced, roof sign;
- Weatherproofing improvements to door signs;
- The provision of sufficient re-test slots during the Christmas period;
- Permission to allow vehicles with minor repair issues to continue to operate; and
- Amending the vehicle age limit cap from 5 to 8 years.

The meeting ended at 3.40 p.m.