

PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

4 JULY 2017

Present: County Councillor Jackie Parry(Chairperson)
County Councillors Murphy, Goddard, Hudson, Jacobsen,
Lancaster, Mackie, Taylor, Wood and Williams

1 : CHAIRPERSON

The Committee noted that Council on 25 May 2017 appointed County Councillor Parry as Chairperson of the Committee.

1 : APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee noted that Council on 25 May 2017 appointed the following Members to the Committee:

Councillors Bridgeman, Driscoll, Goddard, Hudson, Jacobsen, Lancaster, Mackie, Murphy, J Parry, Simmons, Taylor and Wood.

Members were asked to note that at Council on 29 June 2017 the membership of the Committee was further amended, as follows:

Councillors Goddard, Hudson, Jacobsen, Lancaster, Mackie, Murphy, J Parry, Taylor, Williams and Wood (2 vacancies)

3 : TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee's Terms of Reference were noted.

4 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

5 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

6 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 4 April, 23 April and 13 June 2017 were approved by the Committee as a correct record and were signed by the Chairperson.

7 : PRESTIGE VEHICLE APPLICATION

RESOLVED – That the Peugeot 508 SR saloon be approved as a prestige vehicle with a 10-year age restriction.

8 : REVIEW OF GENERAL LICENCE FEES

The Committee received a report and Members were asked to consider approving proposed fees and charges for general licensing functions.

Members were advised that at its meeting on 7 June 2016 the Committee authorised the introduction of the current fees and charges for the general licensing functions. Details of the existing fees and charges were set out in the report. The report also provided a comparison between the existing fees and the proposed new fees.

Officers indicated that the proposed fees had been calculated using the toolkit developed by the Wales Licensing Expert Panel. The toolkit is used by all Welsh Local Authorities. The toolkit provided consistency in fee-setting across Wales.

On 7 February 2017 the Committee received a report advising Members of the ruling of the European Court of Justice in the Hemming V Westminster case. The ruling had implications for the way in which local authorities structure their fees. The judgement recommended that fees should be structured to cover the cost of application, which is an additional cost that is only paid by successful applicants to cover the cost of running and enforcement of the licensing regime.

With the ECJ ruling in mind, the report before the Committee divided the cost of general licensing fees into two separate charges – application fees and grant fees.

Member of the Committee discussed the proposed fee structure. Members noted that the application fee was higher than the grant fee in all instances other than Sex Establishment Licences. Officers advised that new Sex Establishment Licences require a report to be presented to the Committee and the additional officer time is reflected in the fees.

Officers provided a further explanation of those functions taken into consideration, and what may not be, when fees are calculated.

RESOLVED – That the proposed fees and charges outlined in the report are approved with an implementation date of 1 August 2017.

The meeting terminated at 10.50 am

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