

PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE: 6 November 2018

Report of the Head of Shared Regulatory Services

CARDIFF HACKNEY ALLIANCE: APPLICATION FOR RECOGNITION

1. Background

- 1.1 An association of hackney carriage drivers called the Cardiff Hackney Alliance has requested that they be acknowledged by the licensing authority as an authorised body representing licensed hackney carriage drivers in Cardiff.

2. Details.

- 2.1 An application has been received requesting recognition of the Cardiff Hackney Alliance as an association representing licensed drivers in Cardiff. The association is newly formed and has produced a copy of its constitution, which is attached as Appendix A.
- 2.2 The Committee is requested to determine the application. Members of the Association have been requested to attend the meeting to provide further information.

3. Trade Representation

- 3.1 The application by the Cardiff Hackney Alliance is the third formal application for recognition of a representative body to be considered by the authority, the first was the Union of Taxi Drivers in 2011, however this association no longer exists. The 2nd application was from the Taxi Drivers of Cardiff in March 2018, but approval has yet to be given due to the Committee's request for further information.
- 3.2 It is difficult to get a consensus view from the trade as it is comprised of many individuals who have their own views on the way the industry operates. In an attempt to engage with the trade the authority has over the years attempted to promote the establishment of representative organisations. This has largely been on an informal basis and currently most communication is done through the quarterly Cardiff Taxi Driver Forums.
- 3.3 Recognition as a properly constituted representative trade organisation would ensure that the organisation is:

- Able to make proposals to the authority on changes or amendments to licensing policy.
- Entitled to be consulted on proposals on changes or amendments to licensing policy.
- Provided with advance details of draft Public Protection Committee reports for comment.

4. Consultation.

- 4.1 The draft reports were made available for comments in the Licensing Offices at Sloper Road and City Hall to enable interested parties to make comments. Additionally draft copies of the reports were sent to trade representatives and were published on the Licensing Web Pages. Details of responses to the consultation are found in Appendix B

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 When the Council is formulating licensing policy in relation to the hackney carriage or private hire trades it is desirable to consult with members of the Trade. It is not always practicable to consult with individual licensees and sometimes members of the trade may find it easier to speak through representative bodies. Consultation through representative bodies can therefore be extremely useful, but obviously the Council would expect those bodies to act responsibly in carrying out such a role.
- 5.2 As indicated in paragraph 3.1, this is the third formal application for recognition from a representative body. Whatever the outcome, it is not suggested that the existing arrangements for consultation should be diminished.

6. Financial Implications.

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from the report.

7. Recommendation

- 7.1 That the application by the Cardiff Hackney Alliance for recognition as a representative organisation for licensed drivers in Cardiff be considered.

Dave Holland
Head of Shared Regulatory Services

10 October 2018

This report has been prepared in accordance with procedures approved by Corporate Managers.

Background Papers: None

