

## **EX50. POLICY DEVELOPMENT PANEL – REVIEW OF CIVIC LICENSING POLICIES – INTERIM REPORT**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services presenting recommendations from a policy development panel review of civic licensing policies.

The Executive established a policy development panel on 30 September 2014 (ref EX61), to review civic licensing policies. The remit of the panel was to consider:-

- the duration of taxi and private hire car licences;
- the terminal hour for late hours catering establishments;
- the Resolution to ensure that it meets the needs of present day circumstances and remains fit for purpose; and
- the development of a policy covering parades and processions

The panel, which comprised Councillor Blackwood (Convener), Provost Reid and Councillor D Goldie, had met on 6 occasions. The report set out the panel's interim recommendations. These were in regard to:-

- the duration of taxi and private hire car licences; and
- the terminal hour for late hours catering establishments

The report summarised the action undertaken thus far together with conclusions and recommendations.

Councillor Blackwood, seconded by Councillor D Goldie, moved that the Executive agrees:-

- (1) to note the initial review of the civic licensing policies undertaken by the policy development panel;
- (2) to amend the taxi and private hire car/operator licence duration to include a three year renewal option whilst maintaining the current option of an annual renewal should that be the preferred choice of the licence holder;
- (3) that the frequency of hackney tests is reduced from biannual to annual for those licensed vehicles that are under 3 years of age; and
- (4) that the terminal hour for late hours catering establishments within Falkirk Town centre be amended to 2.30am Sunday to Thursday inclusive and 3.30am Friday and Saturday and, during the festive period and on Bank Holidays (as defined in the Licensing Board's Statement of Licensing Policy), 3.30am Sunday to Thursday inclusive and 4.30am Friday and Saturday. The policy as it relates to the terminal hours for non town centres and the town centres of Denny, Stenhousemuir, Bo'ness and Grangemouth remains unchanged.

As an amendment, Councillor Alexander, seconded by Councillor Coleman, moved the terms of the motion, with clause (4) substituted with the following:-

- (4) to consult the town centre community regarding the proposal in regard to the terminal hour for late hours catering and a multi agency report being produced with the likely impact on that community of the changes.

On a division, 8 members voted for the motion and 3 members voted for the amendment, with voting as follows:-

For the motion (8) - Councillors Blackwood, D Goldie, G Goldie, Gow, Mahoney, C Martin, C R Martin and Nimmo.

For the amendment (3) - Councillors Alexander, Coleman and Spears.

**Decision**

**The Executive agreed the motion.**