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Regulatory Committee

**Wednesday, 10 March 2021 6.30 p.m.
Via public remote access (please contact
the Clerk named below for instructions)**



Chief Executive

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Pamela Wallace (Chair)
Councillor John Abbott (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Eddie Dourley
Councillor Mike Fry
Councillor Pauline Hignett
Councillor Kath Loftus
Councillor Tony McDermott
Councillor Angela McInerney
Councillor Stef Nelson
Councillor Gareth Stockton
Councillor Kevan Wainwright

*Please contact Gill Ferguson on 0151 511 8059 or e-mail gill.ferguson@halton.gov.uk for further information.
The next meeting of the Committee is on a date to be agreed.*

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Part I

Item No.	Page No.
1. MINUTES	1 - 2
2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST	
<p>Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Other Disclosable Interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached or as soon as the interest becomes apparent and, with Disclosable Pecuniary interests, to leave the meeting during any discussion or voting on the item.</p>	
3. SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985	

PART II

In this case the Board has a discretion to exclude the press and public and, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, it is **RECOMMENDED** that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, having been satisfied that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

4. TAXI MATTER	3 - 9
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In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Regulatory Committee on Wednesday, 13 January 2021 held remotely

Present: Councillors Wallace (Chair), Abbott (Vice-Chair), Dourley, Fry, K. Loftus, McDermott, A. McInerney, Nelson, G. Stockton and Wainwright

Apologies for Absence: Councillors P. Hignett

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: K. Thompson, K. Cleary, N. Wheeler and L. Woodward

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

	<i>Action</i>
REG12 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2020 having been circulated were signed as a correct record.</p>	
REG13 TAXI LICENSING MATTER	
<p>The Committee considered a report which outlined the concerns within the Taxi Trade due to the economic consequences of the current pandemic, relating to the replacement of vehicles on reaching the prescribed age limits. At a previous meeting it was resolved that Licensed Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles in the Borough of Halton would be subject to age restrictions.</p> <p>Members were advised that the current concerns within the trade were that replacing a licensed vehicle on attaining current age limits could, in the current lack of trade and governmental restrictions due to the pandemic, be punitive to the proprietor of said vehicles and place unreasonable financial and / or personal pressures on Licence Holders. It was suggested to allow a further temporary lift to the age restriction, as was decided in 2012 in reason of the recession.</p> <p>The Committee noted the 77 comments and</p>	

considerations received in response to the consultation.

RESOLVED: That

1. with effect from 26 February 2021 any Hackney Carriage Vehicle or Private Hire Vehicle licenced by Halton Borough Council (“the Council”) on that date may continue to be capable of being a qualifying vehicle notwithstanding that on or after that date the vehicle may exceed the adopted qualifying vehicle age threshold of the Council (“the Dispensation”) subject to the conditions (“the Conditions”) set out below at (3); and
2. the Dispensation shall apply for a period of 2 years commencing on 26 February 2021 (but for the avoidance of doubt any new vehicle licence granted during this period shall continue to the end of the period of that licence) and thereafter the Council’s adopted qualifying vehicle criteria for the time being in force shall apply and the Dispensation shall cease to apply:

The Conditions shall be:

- Any vehicle taking advantage of the Dispensation shall be subject to 3 tests per year; and
- No vehicle taking advantage of the Dispensation may be transferred to another proprietor.

Meeting ended at 6.53 p.m.

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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