

Notice of Meeting and Agenda



General Purposes Committee

Venue: Virtual Meeting,

Date: Tuesday, 07 June 2022

Time: 14:00

Executive Director : Place

Contact:

Clerk Name: Democratic Services
Clerk Telephone:
Clerk Email: democratic.services@midlothian.gov.uk

Further Information:

This is a meeting which is open to members of the public.

Privacy notice: Please note that this meeting may be recorded. The recording may be publicly available following the meeting. If you would like to know how Midlothian Council collects, uses and shares your personal information, please visit our website: www.midlothian.gov.uk

1 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

2 Order of Business

Including notice of new business submitted as urgent for consideration at the end of the meeting.

3 Declaration of Interest

Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

4 Minute of Previous Meeting

- 4.1** Minute of General Purposes Committee 15 March 2022 3 - 6
Submitted for approval

5 Public Reports

- 5.1** Membership and Terms of Reference General Purposes 7 - 12

**(A) TO CONSIDER RESOLVING TO DEAL WITH THE UNDERNOTED BUSINESS IN PRIVATE IN TERMS OF PARAGRAPHS 6, 9 AND 11 OF PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973 - THE RELEVANT REPORTS ARE THEREFORE NOT FOR PUBLICATION; AND
(B) TO NOTE THAT NOTWITHSTANDING ANY SUCH RESOLUTION, INFORMATION MAY STILL REQUIRE TO BE RELEASED UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002 OR THE ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS 2004.**

6 Private Reports

- 6.1** GP Committee Summary Sheet - June 2022
- 6. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the authority).
 - 14. Any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

7 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 30 August 2022

Minute of Meeting



General Purposes Committee

Date	Time	Venue
15 March 2022	10.00 am	Virtual via MS Teams

Present:

Councillor Munro (Chair)	Councillor Alexander
Councillor Cassidy	Councillor Hackett
Councillor Hardie	Councillor Imrie
Councillor Johnstone	Councillor McCall
Councillor McKenzie	Councillor Milligan
Councillor Parry	Councillor Russell
Councillor Smail	Councillor Wallace
Councillor Winchester	

In attendance:

Alan Turpie, Legal Services Manager / Monitoring Officer
Janet Ritchie, Democratic Services Officer
Andrew Henderson, Democratic Services Officer

1. Apology

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Curran, Councillor Muirhead and Councillor Lay- Douglas.

2. Order of Business

The order of business was as set out on the Agenda.

3. Declarations of interest

It was noted that Councillor Curran had submitted his apologies as due to his business interests he had declared an interest and therefore he would not be attending the meeting.

4. Minute of Previous Meeting

The Minute of Meeting of 11 January 2022 was submitted and having been proposed by Councillor Imrie, seconded by Councillor Smaill were unanimously approved as a correct record.

5. Public Reports

No.	Report	Presented by
5.1	Taxis and Private Hire Cars, Review of Tariffs	Alan Turpie
Outline of report and summary of discussion		
<p>The purpose of this report was to advise Members of the outcome of discussions with the Midlothian Taxi Operators Association (“MTOA”) on proposed amendments to the maximum tariffs which may be charged and to seek authority to put these proposed tariffs out to public consultation.</p> <p>Mr Turpie advised the Committee that the Council has a duty to review Taxi fares and that a request had been received from the Lothian Taxi Operators Association for taxi fares to be reviewed. He further advised on the process of this and that discussions had taken place with MTOA as an organization representative of taxis operating within Midlothian and if approved by the Committee today this would go out to public consultation, following consultation this would be referred back to the Committee for them to consider any objections and comments received and determine if they wished to increase the tariffs. He advised that the increase in fares were detailed within Appendix C and that this was the maximum level of fares that could be charged.</p> <p>He also advised that since the agenda has been issued further comments had been received with regards to this and this supports the importance of this going out to public consultation. He further advised on the process of the public consultation by sending out letters to the whole trade and also advertising through the Council’s website to get the views of the members of the public ensuring everyone is notified of this.</p>		

Councillor Hackett enquired as to the cost and how this was benchmarked and Mr Turpie confirmed this was benchmarked against other Lothian and Borders Authorities.

Thereafter the Committee agreed that the tariffs detailed within Appendix C would go out to public consultation.

Decision

The Committee considered that amended tariff levels for taxis and private cars with fitted taxi meters as detailed in Appendix C and agreed that these be put out to public consultation.

Action

Democratic Services/Legal Services

Exclusion of Members of the Public

In view of the nature of the business to be transacted, the Committee agreed that the public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the undernoted item, as contained in the Addendum hereto, as there might be disclosed exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 6 and 14 of Part I of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:-

- 6.1 Grant of Private Hire Car Driver's Licence – H El-Helali
- 6.2 Grant of a Knife Dealer's Licence – Land Warrior Sports Ltd
- 6.3 Grant of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence – J Kay

The meeting terminated at 11.15 am

General Purposes Committee - Membership and Terms of Reference

Report by Executive Director, Place

1 Recommendations

- (a) To note the membership and terms of reference for the General Purposes Committee; and
- (b) To consider the appointment of a Chair;

2 Purpose of Report

This report sets out the Membership and terms of reference of the General Purposes Committee.

Date: 25/05/2022

Report Contact:: Andrew Henderson

Email: Andrew.Henderson@Midlothian.gov.uk

3 Membership and Terms of Reference

3.1 Membership

The General Purposes Committee will comprise all 18 Elected Members of the Council. The General Purposes Committee will have a Chair from its composition, determined by the membership of the Committee;

3.2 Terms of Reference

The terms of reference of the Committee as provided for in the Scheme of Administration appended to the Standing Orders which were approved by Council on 24 May 2022, is as follows:-

- (i) the determination and administration of all licences and permits under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977 as amended and other relative Acts, Regulations and Orders not falling to be dealt with under statute or otherwise by the Midlothian Licensing Board or any other Committee;
- (ii) the administration of Trusts and charitable funds on behalf of the Council, except those relating solely to education or social work;
- (iii) other appropriate miscellaneous matters.

Frequency of meetings:-

- (i) the General Purposes Committee will normally meet on a six weekly cycle (subject to breaks for the summer recess, Christmas/New Year holidays and school holidays).
- (ii) the Council will decide on the schedule of meetings for the General Purposes Committee, usually on a rolling annual basis which will be published.

Quorum:-

- (i) the quorum for meetings of the General Purposes Committee will be 6 Councillors.

The Minutes of the General Purposes Committee will be submitted:-

- (i) to the next meeting ordinary meeting of the General Purposes Committee for approval; and
- (ii) to the next available meeting of the Council for information and to enable it to consider any recommendations contained therein.

4 Report Implications (Resource, Digital and Risk)

4.1 Resource

There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.

4.2 Digital

Not applicable.

4.3 Risk

In accordance with the Scheme of Administration the Council is required to appoint Members to the various Committees, etc. Failure to do so could impede the discharge of business.

4.4 Ensuring Equalities (if required a separate IIA must be completed)

An equalities impact assessment has not been required in connection with this report.

4.4 Additional Report Implications (See Appendix A)

See Appendix A

Appendices

Appendix A – Additional Report Implications

APPENDIX A – Report Implications

A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

Not applicable

A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- Holistic Working
- Hub and Spoke
- Modern
- Sustainable
- Transformational
- Preventative
- Asset-based
- Continuous Improvement
- One size fits one
- None of the above

A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- One Council Working with you, for you
- Preventative and Sustainable
- Efficient and Modern
- Innovative and Ambitious
- None of the above

A.4 Delivering Best Value

Not applicable.

A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

Not applicable.

A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

Not applicable.

A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

Not applicable.

A.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

Not applicable.

