

**Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 – Proposed public consultation on demand for taxi and private hire car services and whether to continue to have policies limiting number of licensed vehicles agreed – Instruction to Director of Legal and Administration.**

**5** With reference to the minutes of 28th February 2024 (Print 7, page 94) agreeing that

- (1) the interim independent assessment of the overprovision, use and demand for the services of private hire cars and separately taxis in the city, scheduled for June 2024, no longer remained appropriate; and
- (2) a full independent review of both the Limitation of Taxi Licences Policy and the Private Hire Car Licence Overprovision Policy be undertaken, at the same time, in June 2025,

there was submitted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration regarding a proposal to undertake a public consultation on the demand for taxi and private hire car services in the city and whether this authority should continue to have policies limiting the number of such licensed vehicles, advising

- (a) of background information in relation to the consideration of the demand for taxis which was unmet and the overprovision of private hire cars, in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982;
- (b) that following a review and consideration of an independent assessment report by Local Transport Projects Ltd, an amended Limitation of Taxi Licences Policy and a Private Hire Car Licence Overprovision Policy had been approved by this committee on 26th April 2023 (Print 1, page 107) with an interim review of both policies originally to be undertaken, at the same time, in June 2024, as detailed in the report;
- (c) of the current position regarding the matter and highlighting that since the policies were last reviewed, concerns had continued to be raised regarding the availability of taxi and private hire cars in the city;
- (d) of the arrangements for a proposed public consultation in relation to the matter, as detailed in the report, which would seek views on whether the policies limiting the number of taxis and private hire cars in the city were still necessary and proportionate and whether they continued to be in the public interest;
- (e) that the proposed consultation would seek to capture views not only from the existing taxi and private hire car trade but also from the public generally and from those involved in the city's late night economy and would be hosted on the Council's consultation hub as well as being brought to the attention of taxi and private hire car booking offices, trade groups as well as various partners and organisations, as detailed in the report; and

- (f) that the outcome of the consultation would be reported back to this committee and that this would help inform members in determining whether they wished to maintain either or both the current policies and, if so, whether to proceed to carry out the review of demand that was due to commence in June 2025 in relation to the number limitations contained therein.

After consideration, the committee

- (i) noted the report; and
- (ii) instructed the Director of Legal and Administration to undertake a public consultation on the demand for taxi and private hire car services in the city and whether this authority should continue to have policies limiting the number of such licensed vehicles and to report back on the findings.