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Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr
Bridgend County Borough Council



Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont, CF31 4WB / Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Rhowch wybod i ni os mai Cymraeg yw eich dewis iaith.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Please let us know if your language choice is Welsh.



Cyfarwyddiaeth y Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executive's Directorate
Deialu uniongyrchol / Direct line /: 01656 643148 / 643694 / 643513
Gofynnwch am / Ask for: Democratic Services

Dyddiad/Date: Thursday, 14 May 2026

Dear Councillor,

LICENSING COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Licensing Committee will be held Hybrid in the Council Chamber - Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB / remotely via Microsoft Teams on **Wednesday, 20 May 2026** at **09:30**.

AGENDA

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence from Members.

2 Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest (if any) from Members/Officers in accordance with the provisions of the Members Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1 September 2008.

3 Approval of Minutes

3 - 10

To receive for approval the minutes of the 12/02/2026 and 24/03/2026

4 Appointment of Licensing Sub-Committee(s) and Delegations to Officers

11 - 12

5 Urgent Items

To consider any other item(s) of business in respect of which notice has been given in accordance with Rule 4 of the Council Procedure Rules and which the person presiding at

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the meeting is of the opinion should by reason of special circumstances be transacted at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

Note: This will be a Hybrid meeting and Members and Officers will be attending in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Angel Street Bridgend / Remotely via Microsoft Teams. The meeting will be recorded for subsequent transmission via the Council's internet site which will be available as soon as practicable after the meeting. If you would like to view this meeting live, please contact cabinet_committee@bridgend.gov.uk or tel. 01656 643148 / 643694 / 643513 / 643159.

Yours faithfully

K Watson

Chief Officer, Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy

Councillors:

H T Bennett

A R Berrow

S J Bletsoe

O Clatworthy

RJ Collins

C Davies

S Easterbrook

H Griffiths

RM James

P W Jenkins

M Lewis

J Llewellyn-Hopkins

J E Pratt

R Williams

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON THURSDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 10:00

Present

Councillor M Lewis – Chairperson

S Easterbrook
O Clatworthy

RM James

A R Berrow

P W Jenkins

Present Virtually

R Williams
H T Bennett

J Llewellyn-Hopkins
S J Bletsoe

J E Pratt

RJ Collins

Officers:

Mark Galvin
Nimi Chandrasena
Kirsty Evans
Will Lane
Andrea Lee

Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Democratic Services Officer - Support
Senior Licensing Officer
Operational Manager Shared Regulatory Services
Legal Officer

48. Apologies for Absence

Decision Made	Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Colin Davies
Date Decision Made	12 February 2026

49. Declarations of Interest

Decision Made	None.
Date Decision Made	12 February 2026

50. Approval of Minutes

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That the minutes of 30 September 2025, be approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	12 February 2026

51. Bridgend County Borough Council Taxi Testing Regime

Decision Made	<p>The Team Manager – Licensing presented a report, the purpose of which, was to seek approval to consult with the taxi and private hire trade, Ty Thomas Testing Centre and the Home to School Transport Department on the proposal to allow taxi and private hire vehicles to obtain an MOT and additional compliance test at any Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) approved MOT testing station or to retain the current regime of in-house testing.</p> <p>The report sets out the advantages and disadvantages of both approaches and these were detailed in paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4 of the report, respectively.</p> <p>Approval was therefore sought from members to progress the options available to Committee to consultation with the taxi and private hire trade within Bridgend County Borough Council, Ty Thomas Testing Centre and the Home to School Transport Department.</p> <p>Following such consultation, a report setting out the consultation responses will be presented to the Committee at the earliest opportunity for consideration and a determination to be made.</p> <p>Members raised a considerable number of questions on the report, including the following:-</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who presently undertakes Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle compliance checks, ie Ty Thomas or BCBC Licensing Officers? • Is the current provider fit for purpose, that is considered satisfactory from a vehicle testing capacity perspective in terms of maintaining Taxi's, given that it's a joint venture that also covers MOT of South Wales Police vehicles? • Are there any 'spot checks' of Taxi vehicles on the road carried out, aside of just the MOT testing, in order to ensure these vehicles are roadworthy at any given time? • The report confirms that Ty Thomas generates around £46k of revenue income for the MOT of the above vehicles, but there is no reference made to the cost for the local authority in association with that income? • Maybe the Committee should have had more input into the consultation, for example, what questions were asked as part of it and what form the consultation took, etc • A member made the point that though Ty Thomas carries out MOT testing for both the Council and the Police, they were not obligated to undertake any works required as a result of the MOT, to ensure any such vehicles were roadworthy, which was a disadvantage of the service • Members noted that as there were only two Licensing Enforcement Officers in BCBC, there was not enough of a resource to carry out 'spot checks' on Taxi's, in order to ensure that they are covered by road insurance, a valid MOT and are generally in the standard the vehicles should be in to be considered roadworthy, at any given point in time. <p>Following the debate on this item, Members took a vote and unanimously</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Committee agreed to consult with the taxi and private hire trade, the Home to School Transport Department, and Ty Thomas on the following options with regards to taxi and private hire testing within Bridgend County Borough Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) To retain the current in-house testing regime. This requires proprietors to obtain an MOT Certificate from Ty Thomas Joint Maintenance Facility along with an additional taxi compliance check. ii) To allow proprietors to obtain an MOT Certificate from any DVSA approved MOT testing station in the County Borough, and that the same testing station undertakes an additional taxi compliance check.
Date Decision Made	12 February 2026.

Urgent Items

Decision Made	There were no urgent items
Date Decision Made	12 February 2026

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this link

The meeting closed at 10:45.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER – CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB / REMOTELY - VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 24 MARCH 2026 AT 10:00

Present

Councillor M Lewis – Chairperson

R Williams

H T Bennett

S J Bletsoe

O Clatworthy

Present Virtually

H Griffiths

J Llewellyn-Hopkins

J E Pratt

RM James

A R Berrow

C Davies

Apologies for Absence

RJ Collins

Declarations of Interest

Cllr J E Platt declared a prejudicial interest as some of those who responded to the consultation referenced in the report were known to him. He withdrew from the meeting for agenda item 3.

Officers:

Kirsty Evans

Licensing Team Manager

Andrea Lee

Senior Lawyer

William Lane

Operational Manager - Neighbourhood Services

Yvonne Witchell

Senior Licensing Officer

Oscar Roberts

Democratic Services Officer - Committees

Stephen Griffiths

Democratic Services Officer - Committees

Bridgend County Borough Council Taxi Testing Regime

Decision Made	<p>The purpose of the report was for members to consider the consultation responses from the taxi and private hire trade, along with comments from Ty Thomas Centre on the following proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) To retain the current in-house testing regime. This requires proprietors to obtain an MOT Certificate from Ty Thomas Joint Maintenance Facility along with an additional taxi compliance check. ii) To allow proprietors to obtain an MOT Certificate from any Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) approved MOT testing station in the County Borough, and that the same testing station undertakes an additional taxi compliance check. <p>Members considered the report and asked questions seeking clarification about the workings of the testing regime.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u></p> <p>Members determined the requirements for future testing provision for taxis and private hire vehicles for Bridgend County Borough Council as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To allow proprietors to obtain an MOT Certificate from any DVSA approved MOT testing station in the County Borough, and that the same testing station would undertake an additional taxi compliance check. • Approved the taxi compliance test form detailed in Appendix D and provided licensing officers with delegated power to make amendments to said test. • Provided officers with delegated powers to implement a new system with an implementation date of 1 May 2026 to allow for a smooth transitional period.
Date Decision Made	24 March 2026

2. Urgent Items

Decision Made	None
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Date Decision Made	24 March 2026
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To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click this [link](#).

The meeting closed at 10:27.

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Agenda Item 4

Meeting of:	LICENSING COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	20 MAY 2026
Report Title:	APPOINTMENT OF LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE(S) AND DELEGATIONS TO OFFICERS
Report Owner / Responsible Chief Officer / Cabinet Member:	CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES, HR AND ELECTORAL
Responsible Officer:	KIRSTY EVANS TEAM MANAGER LICENSING
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	The report content has no direct effect upon the policy framework and procedure rules.
Executive Summary:	To propose the membership of the Licensing Committee and Sub-Committees following the Annual Meeting of Council 2026.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to propose the membership of the Licensing Committee Sub-Committees following the Annual Meeting of Council 2026.

2. Background

- 2.1 At the annual general meeting of Council on 13 May 2026 they will determine the membership of the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Committees for the municipal year 2026/2027. At the date of publication of this report the membership has not been confirmed.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 The range of functions is set out within the Council's Constitution in Part 3 - Responsibility for Functions, relating to the Licensing Committee and Sub-Committees. These functions include taxi licensing, street trading, and other general licensing regimes as required. A separate report is being submitted in respect of the authority's Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 functions.

3.2 It is proposed that the Licensing Committee continues with the existing arrangements and approves the formation of two panels sitting on a rota basis, each consisting of seven Members of the Licensing Committee and chaired by the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Licensing Committee where possible.

3.3 In the event that the Chair or Vice Chair are not able to attend their respective sub-committee meeting, a chair will be elected from those in attendance.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

4.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh Language. It is therefore not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

5.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

6. Climate Change or Nature Implications

6.1 There are no climate change or nature implications arising from this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

7.1 There are no safeguarding and corporate parent implications arising from this report.

8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from the report.

9. Recommendations

9.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- Approve the formation of two panels sitting on a rota basis, each consisting of seven Members of the Licensing Committee and chaired by the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Licensing Committee where possible. In the event that the Chair or Vice Chair are not able to attend their respective sub-committee meeting, a chair will be elected from those in attendance. These Licensing Sub-Committees will undertake licensing functions, including taxi licensing and street trading as set out in the Council's Constitution.

Background documents

None.