



Oversight and Governance

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TAXI LICENSING COMMITTEE

Thursday 1 December 2022
10.00 am
Council House

Members:

Councillor Churchill, Chair
Councillor Tofan, Vice Chair
Councillors Haydon, Partridge, Rennie, Tuffin and 1 Conservative Vacancy.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

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Tracey Lee
Chief Executive

Taxi Licensing Committee

AGENDA

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for non-attendance submitted by Committee Members.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

3. Minutes

(Pages 1 - 4)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 03 November 2022.

4. Chair's Urgent Business

To receive reports on business which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

5. Appeal Cases

The Committee will be provided with the results of the judgement on appeal cases that went to Court.

6. Exempt Information

To consider passing a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 to exclude the press and the public from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 & 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Part II (Private Meeting)

Agenda

Members of the Public to Note:

That under the law, the Committee is entitled to consider certain items in private. Member of the public will be asked to leave the meeting when such items are discussed.

7. Confidential Minutes

(Pages 5 - 10)

To confirm the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 03 November 2022.

8. Review Status of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence: (Pages 11 - 28)

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Taxi Licensing Committee

Thursday 3 November 2022

PRESENT:

Councillor Churchill, in the Chair.
Councillor Tofan, Vice Chair.
Councillors Finn, Haydon, Partridge, Rennie and Tuffin.

Also in attendance:

Andrea Gilbert (Lawyer, Legal Services), Rachael Hind (Licensing Service Manager, Intelligence and Licensing), & Elliot Wearne-Gould (Democratic Advisor).

The meeting started at 10:00 and finished at 14:10.

Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

38. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest in accordance with the code of conduct.

39. **Minutes**

The Committee agreed the minutes of 06 October 2022 as a correct record.

40. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

41. **Appeal Cases**

The Committee agreed to note that there had been no appeal cases since the last meeting.

42. **Exempt Information**

The Committee agreed to pass a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 to exclude the press and the public from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

43. **Confidential Minutes**

The Committee agreed the confidential minutes of 06 October 2022 as a correct record.

44. **Review Status Of A Hackney Carriage Driver Licence**

The Committee having -

- a) considered the report from the Director for Public Health;
- b) had sight of three character references;
- c) heard from the Hackney Carriage Driver and their legal representative;
- d) taken the following into account:
 - (d1) The law, policy and factual information contained in the report.

The Committee asked itself whether it would want a person they cared for or a vulnerable person to be driven in a vehicle by the Hackney Carriage Driver. The answer to that question was yes.

The Committee agreed to issue a warning letter to the Hackney Carriage Driver, which will be raised at any future Committee appearance.

(Please note, there is a confidential part to this minute)

45. **Review Status Of A Hackney Carriage Driver Licence**

(During the meeting, it was clarified that this item related to the 'Review Status of a Private Hire Vehicle License')

The Committee having –

- a) Considered the report from the Director for Public Health;
- b) heard from the driver;
- c) taken the following into account:
 - (c1) all facts, law and policy referred to in the report.

The Committee agreed to –

1. suspend the driver's license for a period of 28 days;
2. require the driver to sit a Driving Standards Test within three months of receiving the decision letter, or the first available appointment after that;
3. stipulate that failure to comply with the above, would result in the driver being brought back before the Committee where further sanctions would be considered, including revocation.

(Please note there is a confidential part to this minute)

46. **Review Status of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence**

The Committee agreed to adjourn the review of this Private Vehicle Driver's license to the next Taxi Licensing Committee, due to the non-attendance of the driver.

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The following relates to exempt or confidential matters (Para(s) 1, 2, 3 of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Govt Act 1972). A breach of confidentiality could prejudice the Council/person/body concerned & might amount to a breach of the councillors /employees codes of conduct.

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