

Taxi Licensing Committee

Thursday 1 August 2024

PRESENT:

Councillor Tippetts, in the Chair.
Councillor Moore, Vice Chair.
Councillors Gilmour, Luggier, Morton and Ney.

Apologies for absence: Councillor S.Nicholson.

Also in attendance: Sam Boothby (Legal Support Assistant (observing)), Hannah Chandler-Whiting (Democratic Advisor), Steve Forshaw (Senior Enforcement Officer), Andrea Gilbert (Lawyer) and Mark Wheeler (Enforcement Officer).

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 11.43 am.

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.

10. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made.

11. **Minutes**

The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2024 as an accurate record.

12. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

13. **Appeal Cases**

There were no updates on appeal cases.

14. **Number of Certificates of Good Conduct Exemptions Granted**

There had not been any certificates of good conduct exemptions granted.

15. **Exempt Information**

The Committee agreed 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.

16. **Confidential Minutes**

The Committee agreed the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2024 as an accurate record.

17. **Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence**

The Committee:

- a) Considered all that was said by the driver and his character witness;
- b) Considered all of the information contained within the report;
- c) Considered all of the relevant policies referred to in the report;
- d) Asked itself whether it would want a person they cared for or a vulnerable person to be driven in a vehicle driven by the driver, the answer to that question was yes;
- e) Found exceptional, clear and compelling reasons to depart from the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Policy guidelines.

The Committee agreed to:

1. Grant the application for a Private Hire Vehicle Licence, subject to the driver completing the VRQ in "Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire" or its equivalent within 12 months of receiving the licence. Failure to complete the course by this time could result in sanctions including the possible revocation of his licence.

18. **Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence**

The Committee:

- a) Considered all that was said by the driver;
- b) Considered all of the information contained within the report;
- c) Considered all of the relevant policies referred to in the report;
- d) Asked itself whether it would want a person they cared for or a vulnerable person to be driven in a vehicle driven by the driver, the answer to that question was yes;
- e) Found exceptional, clear and compelling reasons to depart from the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Policy guidelines.

The Committee agreed to:

- I. Grant the application for a Private Hire Vehicle Licence, subject to the driver completing the VRQ in “Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire” or its equivalent within 12 months of receiving the licence. Failure to complete the course by this time could result in sanctions including the possible revocation of his licence.