

Taxi Licensing Committee

Thursday 15 June 2017

PRESENT:

Councillor Kelly, in the Chair.
Councillor Foster, Vice Chair.
Councillors Bowie, Mavin, Rennie and Singh.

Apology for absence: Councillor Carson.

Also in attendance: Steve Forshaw (Senior Enforcement Officer), Andrea Gilbert (Lawyer),
(Helen Wright (Democratic Advisor).

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 1.30 pm.

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.

1. **To note the appointment of Chair and Vice Chair**

The Committee noted the appointment of Councillor Kelly as Chair and Councillor Foster as Vice Chair for the forthcoming municipal year 2017/18.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Bowie declared a personal interest in minute 10 and advised that she would leave the room when considering this matter.

3. **Minutes**

Agreed that the minutes of the meetings held on 27 April 2017 and 11 May 2017 are confirmed as a correct record.

4. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

5. **Appeal Cases**

The Committee was advised that there were two appeals scheduled to be heard in the near future.

6. **Schedule of Meetings for the Forthcoming Year**

The Committee wished to register its disappointment that the July meeting date had been changed without prior consultation following agreement of the calendar of meetings at the City Council meeting on 20 March 2017.

The Committee noted the schedule of meetings for the forthcoming municipal year 2017/18.

7. **Exempt information**

Agreed that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and 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 and 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

8. **Confidential minutes**

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2017 are confirmed as a correct record.

9. **Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence- AB**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from AB and his non-legal representative;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The Committee agreed to depart from its guidelines and grant AB's application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence with no requirement to complete any of the usual pre-requisites; the grant of this licence was however subject to the condition that AB attends a Child Sexual Exploitation and Adult Safeguarding Course within 12 months of the issue of this licence.

10. **Review Status of Hackney Carriage Driver Licence - MW**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from MW and his non-legal representative;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The Committee agreed that having taken the above into account, MW would be issued with a 28 day suspension to be taken consecutively and that he would be required to re-sit the vehicle safety module of the VRQ in 'Transporting Passengers by Taxi or Private Hire' or its equivalent and complete this on or before 27 September 2017. MW would also be required to attend a Child Sexual Exploitation and Adult Safeguarding course within 12 months.

(Councillors Mavin and Rennie voted against the decision to suspend the licence for 28 days).

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

11. **Review Status of Hackney Carriage Driver Licence - AM**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from AM;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The Committee agreed to issue AM with a warning which would lie on his file and in line with the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy he would be required to complete the VRQ driver qualification in 'Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire', or its equivalent, within 12 months; he would also be required to attend a Child Sexual Exploitation and Adult Safeguarding course within 12 months.

(Councillor Bowie returned for the remainder of the meeting and Councillor Foster left the meeting).

Councillor Singh was appointed as Vice Chair for the remainder of the meeting).

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

12. **Review Status of Hackney Carriage Driver Licence - AB**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from AB;
- (c) took the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The Committee agreed that having taken the above into account; AB would be issued with a seven day suspension to be taken consecutively; he would also be required to re-sit the VRQ in 'Transporting Passengers by Taxi or Private Hire', or its equivalent and complete this within the next 12 months of the issue of this licence; he would also be required to attend a Child Sexual Exploitation and Adult Safeguarding course within the next 12 months.

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