

Taxi Licensing Committee

Thursday 26 October 2017

PRESENT:

Councillor Kelly, in the Chair.
Councillor K Foster, Vice Chair.
Councillors Bowie, Mrs Bridgeman, Mavin and Rennie.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Carson and Deacon.

Also in attendance: Steve Forshaw (Senior Enforcement Officer), Catherine Fox (Lawyer) and Helen Rickman (Democratic Advisor).

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 12.50 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.

47. **Declarations of Interest**

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

48. **Minutes**

Agreed the minutes of 28 September 2017 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

49. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of Chair's Urgent Business.

50. **Appeal Cases**

The Committee was advised that an appeal was scheduled to be heard at Crown Court on 7 December 2017.

51. **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.

52. **Confidential Minutes**

Agreed the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 28 September 2017.

53. **Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence - SA**

The Committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from SA;
- (c) noted that SA had completed the knowledge of Plymouth test;
- (d) took into account the above report and all that was said into consideration.

The Committee agreed to act outside of its policy and grant SA's application for a hackney carriage driver's licence subject to:

- (e) the completion of the Child Sexual Exploitation Course within 12 months, however SA is requested to attend the next available course.

(Councillor Rennie requested that his vote of dissent is recorded for this application)

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

54. **Review Status of Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence - RK**

The Committee –

- (a) was advised that RK was not in attendance however a letter inviting him to the meeting was sent on 16 October 2017; the letter made it clear that should RK not attend the meeting, the Committee was likely to proceed in his absence;
- (b) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (c) took into account the above report.

The Committee took the report into consideration and also considered the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy. The Committee considered the application on its own merits and in this instance agreed to suspend RK's licence for a consecutive period of 28 days with a requirement that RK resit and pass the driving standards test within 2 months from receipt of this letter.

The Committee also require RK to attend the Child Sexual Exploitation Course within 12 months, however RK is requested to attend the next available course.

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

55. **Review Status of Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licence - JCHL**

The Committee heard that the letter inviting JCHL to today's Committee hearing, including the committee report, had been returned to the Licensing Office. JCHL had therefore not had sight of the report and did not know of today's hearing.

The Committee agreed to adjourn the review of JCHL's Private Hire Driver's Licence. Given the information contained within the report and the knowledge that JCHL had been remanded to prison with a Court date on 30 October 2017, the Committee agreed that the review of his licence should occur as soon as possible and therefore set an additional date for Taxi Licensing Committee at 10am on Wednesday 8 November 2017.