

Taxi Licensing Committee

Thursday 22 January 2015

PRESENT:

Councillor Jarvis, in the Chair.
Councillor Bowie, Vice Chair.
Councillors Mrs Foster, Fry, Mrs Nicholson, Rennie and Singh.

Also in attendance: Sharon Day (Legal Officer), Steve Forshaw (Licensing Officer) (pm only), Ann Gillbanks (Senior Lawyer) (Part I only), Andy Netherton (Service Manager, Public Protection Service) (Part I only), Mark Small (Licensing Officer) (am only) and Lynn Young (Democratic Support Officer).

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 3.51 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.

99. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

100. **MINUTES**

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2014 are confirmed as a correct record.

101. **CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of chair's urgent business.

102. **APPEAL CASES**

The committee was advised that there had been no appeal cases since the last meeting.

103. **HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE FEES**

Andy Netherton (Service Manager, Public Protection Service) submitted a report on behalf of the Director of Public Health on the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Fees, which included the following main areas –

- the legal framework;
- the process to vary fees;
- allocation of expenses and income;

- fee changes for 2015/16;
- future budget risks and management.

The committee agreed that the new fee structure, as set out in appendix I of the report, will be advertised in accordance with statutory requirements and a period of 21 days will be given for objections.

(Ann Gillbanks and Andy Netherton left the meeting after this item)

104. **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 Schedule 12a of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

105. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES (E1, E2 AND E3)**

Agreed that the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2014 are confirmed as a correct record.

106. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - DJWL (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

- considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- heard from DJWL;
- heard from DJWL's representative;
- took the above report and all that was said by DJWL and his representative into consideration.

The committee agreed to grant DJWL's application for a private hire driver's licence subject to him completing the VRQ qualification in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire or equivalent, within 12 months of receiving his licence.

Order of business

With the permission of the chair, the order of business was amended, as set out below in the minutes.

107. **REVIEW OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE - JSH (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) heard from JSH;
- (c) heard from JSH's representative;
- (d) took the above report and all that was said by JSH and his representative into consideration.

The committee agreed that having taken the above into account to suspend JSH's hackney carriage driver's licence for seven days under Section 19(1)(b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1975. He would also be required to successfully complete a VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire or equivalent within the next 12 months.

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

108. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - TDH (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

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

The committee agreed to grant TDH's application for a private hire driver's licence subject to her producing a satisfactory medical certificate to the Licensing Department.

109. **REVIEW OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - JTD (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

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

The committee agreed that having the above into account to suspend JTD's private hire licence for a period of 5 days under Section 19(1)(b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1975. A warning has also been issued which will remain on his file indefinitely and will be brought to the committee's attention if he appears before them again.

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

110. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - DJU (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

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

The committee agreed to grant DJU's application for a private hire driver's licence subject to him producing proof that he has completed the remaining prerequisites, being the production of a satisfactory medical certificate and completion of the Driving Standards Test. DJU is also required to successfully complete a VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi or Private Hire or equivalent within the first 12 months of being licensed.

111. **APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - IMY (E1, E2 AND E3)**

The committee –

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

The committee agreed to grant IMY's application for a private hire driver's licence subject to him producing proof that he has completed the remaining prerequisites, being the production of a satisfactory medical certificate and the completion of the Driving Standards Test. IMY is also required to successfully complete the VRQ in Transporting Passengers by Taxi or Private Hire or equivalent within the first 12 months of being licensed.

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

112. **REVIEW OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE - RGW (E1, E2 AND E3)**

RGW failed to attend and due to the serious nature of the matters detailed in the report the committee agreed to hear the matter in his absence and -

- (a) considered the report from the Director of Public Health;
- (b) took the above report into consideration.

The committee agreed that having taken the above into account to revoke RGW's hackney carriage driver's licence under section 19(1)(a) and (b) of the Plymouth City Council Act 1975 as he is no longer considered to be a fit and proper person.

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