

Minutes of the Meeting of the LICENSING ENFORCEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Held: TUESDAY, 28 JANUARY 2025 at 10:00 am

PRESENT:

Councillor Barton (Chair)

Councillor Cank

Councillor Kennedy-Lount

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1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Councillor Barton was appointed as Chair.

The Chair led on introductions and welcomed all to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed.

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

AGREED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 November 2024 be confirmed as a correct record.

5. PRIVATE SESSION

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded during consideration of the following reports in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended,

because they involve the likely disclosure of 'exempt' information, as defined in the Paragraphs detailed below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and taking all the circumstances into account, it was considered that the public interest in maintaining the information as exempt outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

Paragraph 1

Information relating to an individual.

Paragraph 2

Information that is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

Paragraph 3

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority).

Paragraph 7

Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

6. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Director of Neighbourhood and Environmental Services submitted a report that required Members to determine an Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Driver's Licence.

The applicant was present. The Licensing Team Manager and Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee were also present.

The Chair led introductions and informed those present of housekeeping and evacuation procedures.

The Licensing Team Manager presented the report and outlined details of the applicant, including the relevant City Council Guidelines.

The applicant was invited to set out their representations and answered questions from Members and Officers.

All parties present were given the opportunity to sum up their positions and make any final comments.

The Sub-Committee received legal advice from the Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee in the presence of all those present.

In reaching their decision, Members felt they should deliberate in private on the basis that this was in the public interest, and as such outweighed the public interest of their deliberation taking place with the parties represented present.

The Chair announced that the decision and reasons made during private deliberation would be announced in writing within five working days.

The Chair informed the meeting that the Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee would be called back to give advice on the wording of the decision.

The Chair then asked all but Members of the Sub-Committee and Governance Services to leave the meeting. The Sub-Committee then deliberated in private to consider their decision.

The Sub-Committee recalled the Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee to give advice on the wording of the decision.

RESOLVED:

That the application for the grant of an Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles Licence be GRANTED for the probation period of one year.

The applicant would be provided with reasons for the decision in writing within 5 working days.

All parties would be advised of the right to appeal the decision.

7. PERSONAL LICENCE REVIEW

The Director of Neighbourhood and Environmental Services submitted a report that required Members to determine the review of a personal licence issued by this authority.

The Licensing Team Manager presenting the report and Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee were present.

It was noted that the Personal Licence Holder was absent from the meeting, having sent their apologies. Members and officers present discussed how the meeting should proceed. It was agreed to proceed with the hearing in the Personal Licence Holder's absence.

The Chair led introductions and informed those present of housekeeping and evacuation procedures.

The Licensing Team Manager presented the report and outlined the details of the application, including the relevant City Council guidelines.

The Sub-Committee received legal advice from the Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee in the presence of all those present and were advised of the options

available to them in making their decision.

The Sub-Committee were also advised of the relevant policy and statutory guidance that needed to be taken into account when making their decision.

In reaching their decision, Members felt they should deliberate in private on the basis that this was in the public interest, and as such outweighed the public interest of their deliberation taking place with the parties present.

The Chair announced that the decision and reasons made during private deliberation would be publicly announced in writing within five working days.

The Chair informed the meeting the Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee would be called back to give advice on the wording of the decision.

The Chair then asked all but Members of the Sub-Committee and Democratic Support Officers to leave the meeting. the Sub-Committee then deliberated in private to give advice on the wording of the decision.

The Sub-Committee recalled the Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee to give advice on the wording of the decision.

RESOLVED:

That the Personal Licence be REVOKED.

The Personal Licence Holder would be provided with the reasons for the decision in writing within five working days.

All parties would be advised of the right to appeal the decision.

The Chair announced a five minute adjournment and the meeting resumed at 11:35am.

8. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Director of Neighbourhood and Environmental Services submitted a report that required Members to determine an Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Driver's Licence.

The applicant was present. The Licensing Team Manager and Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee were also present.

The Chair led introductions and informed those present of housekeeping and evacuation procedures.

The Licensing Team Manager presented the report and outlined details of the applicant, including the relevant City Council Guidelines.

The applicant was invited to set out their representations and answered

questions from Members and Officers.

All parties present were given the opportunity to sum up their positions and make any final comments.

The Sub-Committee received legal advice from the Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee in the presence of all those present.

In reaching their decision, Members felt they should deliberate in private on the basis that this was in the public interest, and as such outweighed the public interest of their deliberation taking place with the parties represented present.

The Chair announced that the decision and reasons made during private deliberation would be announced in writing within five working days.

The Chair informed the meeting that the Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee would be called back to give advice on the wording of the decision.

The Chair then asked all but Members of the Sub-Committee and Governance Services to leave the meeting. The Sub-Committee then deliberated in private to consider their decision.

The Sub-Committee recalled the Legal Adviser to the Sub-Committee to give advice on the wording of the decision.

RESOLVED:

That the application for the grant of an Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles Licence be REFUSED as Members were not satisfied that the applicant was a 'fit and proper person'.

The applicant would be provided with reasons for the decision in writing within 5 working days.

All parties would be advised of the right to appeal the decision.

9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There being no other urgent business, the meeting closed at 12:20pm.