

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (1)** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 6 July 2016 at 10.00 am**

### **Present:**

**Councillor L Marshall (Chairman)**

### **Members of the Committee:**

Councillors D Bell, J Bell and A Willis

### **Also Present:**

C Hazell (Solicitor)

H Johnson (Licensing Team Leader)

L Cloney (Licensing Enforcement Team Leader)

R Young (Licensing Enforcement Officer)

Sgt M Urwin (Durham Constabulary)

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Geldard.

### **2 Substitutes**

There were no substitute members.

### **3 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **4 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **5 Exclusion of the Public**

That under Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded 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, 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

## **6 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver**

The Licence Holder had indicated that he was unable to attend the meeting but had provided a statement, copies of which were circulated to Members at the meeting.

The Sub-Committee retired at 10.10 am to decide if they were happy to determine the application in the absence of the Licence Holder.

The Sub-Committee re-convened at 10.15 am and the Chairman advised that they had agreed to hear the application in the absence of the Licence Holder in light of the information provided in his statement.

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which requested the Sub-Committee to consider and determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Officer was in attendance and outlined the Enforcement report. Members were given the opportunity to answer questions.

Durham Constabulary were in attendance and provided Members with information held on their records and Police National Computer. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 10.25 am. After re-convening at 10.30 am the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:** That the Licence Holder's suspension be lifted and he be issued with a written warning for a 12 month period and attend an Anger Management Course within 3 months.

## **7 Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Driver Licence**

The Chairman welcomed the Applicant and his Supporter to the meeting and introductions were made.

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which requested the Sub-Committee to consider and determine the suitability of the Applicant to be licensed as a Private Hire Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

Durham Constabulary were in attendance and provided Members with information held on their records and Police National Computer. The Applicant and Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Applicant addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 10.45 am. After re-convening at 10.50 am the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:** That the Applicant be granted a Private Hire Driver Licence.

## **8 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver**

The Chairman welcomed the Licence Holder to the meeting and introductions were made.

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which requested the Sub-Committee to consider and determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Team Leader was in attendance and updated members on the suspension of the licence. Members and the Licence Holder were given the opportunity to ask questions.

Durham Constabulary were in attendance and provided Members with information held on their records and Police National Computer and provided Members with a copy of photographs of the incident. The Licence Holder and Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Licence Holder addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.05 am. After re-convening at 11.25 am the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:** That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence remain suspended until he satisfied Group 2 Driving Standards.

R Young, Licensing Enforcement Officer joined the meeting

## **9 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver**

The Licence Holder did not attend but Members agreed to continue in his absence.

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which requested the Sub-Committee to consider and determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Officer was in attendance and outlined the Enforcement report. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

Durham Constabulary were in attendance and provided Members with information held on their records and Police National Computer. Members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.35 am. After re-convening at 11.40 am the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:** That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage Drivers Licence be revoked as he was not considered to be a fit and proper person.