

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (2)** held in Council Chamber - County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 3 October 2018 at 10.00 am**

### **Present:**

**Councillor C Carr (Chairman)**

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

Councillors J Bell and D Stoker

### **Also Present:**

S Buston (Solicitor)

H Johnson (Licensing Team Leader)

S Robinson (Licensing Enforcement Officer)

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors J Maitland and T Tucker.

### **2 Substitutes**

Councillor D Stoker was present as a substitute.

### **3 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on 18 July 2018 and 11 September 2018 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

### **4 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

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

That under Section 100(A)(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 of the Act.

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

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

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Local Services which requested Members to consider the suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Licence Holder provided Members with a copy of various references and a letter of apology to be handed to the complainant at the meeting. The Licensing Team Leader advised members that she had been unable to verify two of the references.

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

The Complainant and her supporter entered the meeting and addressed Members. Members and the Licence Holder were given the opportunity to ask questions of the complainant before they left the meeting.

Durham Constabulary were unable to attend the meeting but had indicated that they had no further information to add.

The Licence Holder and his partner were invited to address the Sub-Committee and responded to questions from Members.

After summing up the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.05 am. After re-convening at 11.10 am the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:** That the Licence Holder be issued with a written warning for a 6 month period.

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

The Licence Holder was not in attendance but Members agreed to hear the application in his absence.

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Local Services which requested Members to determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage Driver (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Licensing Team Leader presented the report, Members were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer.

The Licensing Enforcement Officer presented the enforcement report and Members were invited to ask questions.

Durham Constabulary were unable to attend the meeting but had provided details of information held on their records.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.30 am. After re-convening at 11.40 am the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:** That the Licence Holder be issued with a 12 month written warning and a one month suspension which will be lifted once payment had been received.