

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Special Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (1)** held in Council Chamber - County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 25 July 2018 at 10.00 am**

Present:

Members of the Committee:

Councillors A Surtees, T Tucker and A Willis

Also Present:

S Buston (Solicitor)

H Johnson (Licensing Team Leader)

S Robinson (Licensing Enforcement Officer)

R Young (Licensing Enforcement Officer)

DC Haythornthwaite (Durham Constabulary)

PC McNaney (Durham Constabulary)

Councillor A Surtees (In the Chair)

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors J Bell and L Marshall.

2 Substitutes

There were no substitute members.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 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.

5 Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence

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

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services that requested Members to consider and determine the suitability of the Applicant to be licensed as a Private Hire Driver (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Licensing Team Leader presented the Licensing report and circulated to Members a reference that the Applicant had provided in support of his application that had been verified.

Members and the Applicant were given the opportunity to ask questions of the officer.

The Licensing Enforcement Officer was in attendance and took Members through the Enforcement Report. Members and the Applicant were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Enforcement Officer.

Representatives from Durham Constabulary were in attendance and provided Members with background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report.

The Applicant and his Supporter were invited to address the Sub-Committee and respond to questions from Members.

After summing up the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 10.50 am. After re-convening at 11.00 am the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the Applicant be granted a Private Hire Drivers Licence as he was considered to be a fit and proper person.

S Robinson (Enforcement Officer) left meeting

6 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver

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

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

The Licensing Team Leader presented the Licensing and Enforcement report.

Members and the Licence Holder were given the opportunity to ask questions of the officer.

Representatives from Durham Constabulary were in attendance and provided Members with background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report.

The Licence Holder was invited to address the Sub-Committee and respond to questions from Members.

After summing up the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.20 am. After re-convening at 11.35 am the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the Licence Holder be issued with a written warning for 6 months.

7 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.

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

The Licensing Team Leader presented the Licensing and Enforcement report.

Members and the Licence Holder were given the opportunity to ask questions of the officer.

Representatives from Durham Constabulary were in attendance and provided Members with background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report.

The Licence Holder was invited to address the Sub-Committee and respond to questions from Members.

After summing up the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.45 am. After re-convening at 12.10 pm the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Licence be suspended for 4 months but the suspension be suspended for 12 months.

8 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver

The Licensing Team Leader advised Members that the Licence Holder had contacted Licensing to advise that he was unable to attend the meeting and gave an explanation, details of which were provided to Members. Members considered the explanation provided and agreed to hear the application in his absence.

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

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

The Licensing Enforcement Officer was in attendance and took Members through the Enforcement Report. Members were given the opportunity to ask question of the Enforcement Officer

Representatives from Durham Constabulary were in attendance and provided Members with background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report.

After summing up the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 12.20 pm. After re-convening at 12.25 pm the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: (i) That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage Driver Licence be suspended with immediate effect pending signing up to the DBS update service, completion of the Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness and providing a DVLA code.

(ii) Upon completion of the above, the suspension be lifted.