

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (3)** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 4 December 2019 at 1.30 pm**

**Present:**

**Councillor P Crathorne (Chair)**

**Members of the Committee:**

Councillors A Batey, B Kellett and D Stoker

**Also Present:**

C Hazell (Council's Solicitor)

M Haigh (Licensing Enforcement Officer)

Mr Punshon (Revenue and Benefits Officer)

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Bell and P Jopling.

### **2 Substitute Members**

Councillor D Stoker substituted for Councillor P Jopling.

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **4 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30 October 2019 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **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 item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1,2 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

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

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

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services to determine the ongoing 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 Licensing Enforcement Officer was in attendance to outline the report. Members and the Licence Holder were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer.

Durham Constabulary were unable to attend the meeting but had provided a report detailing the information contained on their systems.

The Licence Holder was invited to address the Sub-Committee and Members and Officers were given the opportunity to ask questions.

After Summing up, the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 1.50 pm. After re-convening at 2.00 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:** That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence be revoked with immediate effect.

## **7 Consideration of the Ongoing Suitability of a Private Hire Driver**

The Licensing Enforcement Officer advised Members that the Licence Holder had asked for an adjournment.

Members discussed the request for an adjournment and agreed to hear the application in the absence of the Licence Holder.

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Service to determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Private Hire Driver (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

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

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 2.15 pm. After re-convening at 2.25 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:** That the Licence Holder's Private Hire Driver Licence be revoked.

## **8 Consideration of the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver**

The Chair welcomed the Licence Holder and his representative to the meeting and introductions were made.

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services 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 Enforcement Officer was in attendance to outline the report. Members and the Licence Holder and his representative were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer.

A Member of the Revenue and Benefits Team was in attendance to answer any questions.

Durham Constabulary were unable to attend the meeting but had confirmed that they had no trace on any of their systems.

The Licence Holder and his representative were invited to address the Sub-Committee and Members and Officers were given the opportunity to ask questions.

After Summing up, the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 3.35 pm. After re-convening at 4.25 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:** That the Licence Holder be issued with a 12 month written warning.