

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (3)** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 8 June 2022 at 9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor J Blakey (Chair)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors L Brown, B Kellett and D Stoker

1 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor J Griffiths.

2 Substitute Members

There were no substitute Members.

3 Declarations of interest

Councillor Jan Blakey declared an interest in item numbered 8 on the Agenda regarding the ongoing suitability of a joint Driver, and left the meeting before the report was considered.

4 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2022 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

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 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

6 Consideration of an application for a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence

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

Consideration was given to a report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change which asked the Sub-Committee to consider an application for a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Officer presented the report and all parties were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer.

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

After all parties were given the opportunity to make a closing statement, the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the matter in private, at 9.50 am. After re-convening at 10.05 am, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the application for a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence be granted with a written warning for a 12 month period.

Councillor Jan Blakey left the meeting.

Councillor Liz Brown in the Chair.

7 Consideration of the Ongoing Suitability of a Joint Driver

Consideration was given to the report of the Licensing Enforcement Officer which requested the Sub-Committee to consider the ongoing suitability of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver (for copy see file of Minutes).

Members were informed that the Licence Holder was not in attendance. The Licensing Enforcement Officer advised that an e-mail had been received from the Licence Holder on 1 June 2022 explaining why he was unable to attend, and requesting an adjournment.

Members considered the content of the e-mail and were not convinced by the Licence Holder's reasons for his non-attendance.

RESOLVED:

That the matter be adjourned and listed for the next scheduled Sub-Committee on 21 June 2022. Should the Licence Holder fail to attend on 21 June 2022 the Sub-Committee determined that the hearing shall proceed in his absence.