

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (2)**
held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 28**
February 2024 at 1.30 pm

Present:

Councillor L Mavin (Chair)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors L Brown, B Kellett and R Potts

Also Present:

F Swift - Council's Solicitor

I Dargue - Licensing Enforcement Officer

S Stoker - Licensing Enforcement Officer

PC Newcombe - Durham Constabulary

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor W Stelling.

2 Substitute Members

There were no substitute Members.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2024 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

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 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 Vehicle Licence Holder

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

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change to determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licence Holder (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Officer presented the report and advised Members that the representative from Meadowfield Testing Station would not be in attendance. All parties were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer.

The Licence Holder indicated that the date shown in the report of how long he had held vehicle licences was incorrect and provided the correct date.

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 2.25 pm. After re-convening at 2.30 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the Licence Holder be issued with a written warning for a period of 3 months.

7 To Determine the Renewal Application of a Hackney Carriage Driver and Private Hire Driver

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

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change to determine the renewal application of

a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

Additional information provided by the Licence Holder was circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

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

A representative from Durham Constabulary was then invited to address the Sub-Committee and confirmed that the information contained in the report was accurate. The Licence Holder, Members and Officers were given the opportunity to ask questions.

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 3.20 pm. After re-convening at 3.30 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: (i) That the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence be granted pending the outcome of the court hearing.

(ii) That in the event of the court case being delayed, an update be provided in 3 months.