

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (2)** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 29 July 2015 at 10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor C Carr (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors D Bell, P Crathorne and A Willis

Also Present:

C Pattinson - Legal Manager (Governance)

H Johnson – Licensing Team Leader

N Thornton – Licensing Enforcement Officer

1 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor J Bell.

2 Substitutes

There were no substitutes.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 Declarations of Interest

Councillor David Bell declared an interest in item numbered 7 on the Agenda and left the meeting before the application was considered.

5 Exclusion of the Public

That under Section 100A(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 to the said Act.

The order of business was amended to allow application at item numbered 8 on the Agenda to be considered first.

6 Application for the Renewal of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver

Members: Councillor C Carr (Chairman)
Councillors D Bell and A Willis

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

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which requested the Sub-Committee to consider an application for the renewal of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence (for copy see file of Minutes).

A representative from Durham Constabulary provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report and indicated that the Police had concerns about the future conduct of the Licence Holder but had no objections to the renewal of the Licence.

The Licence Holder, with a statement from his supporter addressed the Committee and responded to questions.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 10.25am. After reconvening at 10.30am the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That the application for the renewal of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence be granted with a written warning for a six month period.

At this point Councillor D Bell left the meeting and Councillor P Crathorne entered the meeting.

7 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Private Hire Driver, Grant of a Private Hire Operator Licence and Private Hire Vehicle Licence

Members: Councillor C Carr (Chairman)
Councillors P Crathorne and A Willis

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

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which requested the Sub-Committee to consider and determine the suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Private Hire Driver, and applications for a Private Hire Operator Licence and Private Hire Vehicle Licence (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Officer provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report.

The Licence Holder addressed the Committee and responded to questions from Members.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.10am. After reconvening at 11.25am the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That

- a) the Licence Holder be allowed to continue to hold a Private Hire Driver Licence as he was deemed to be a 'fit and proper' person;
- b) the applications for a Private Hire Operator Licence and Private Hire Vehicle Licence be granted;
- c) an exemption from displaying the Council's livery be granted.