

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (2)** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 15 March 2017 at 2.00 pm**

Present:

Councillor J Maitland (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors D Stoker, A Surtees and A Willis

Also Present:

G Proud (Council's Solicitor)
H Johnson (Licensing Team Leader)
N Stoker (Licensing Enforcement Officer)
I Dargue (Licensing Enforcement Officer)
Sgt M Urwin (Durham Constabulary)
PCSO M Haigh (Durham Constabulary)

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor C Carr.

2 Substitutes

Councillor A Willis substituted for Councillor C Carr.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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 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 12 A to the said Act.

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 Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director Adults and Health Services which requested Members 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 presented the 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. Members and the Licence Holder were given the opportunity to ask questions.

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

All parties were invited to sum up then the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 2.50 pm. After re-convening at 3.40 pm the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage Licence be revoked as he was not considered to be a fit and proper person.

PCSO M Haigh (Durham Constabulary) and N Stoker (Licensing Enforcement Officer) left the meeting

I Dargue (Licensing Enforcement Officer) joined the meeting

7 Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence

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

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director Adults and Health Services which requested Members to determine the suitability of the Applicant to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage Driver (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Licensing Team Leader advised Members that the Applicant had not completed and passed the DVSA taxi driver assessment test as this requirement had been suspended at the time of his application.

The Licensing Enforcement Officer presented the enforcement report and advised Members of a further offence that had been omitted from the report. Members and the Licence Holder were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer.

A representative from Durham Constabulary was in attendance and provided Members with background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report. Members and the Applicant were given the opportunity to ask questions.

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

All parties were invited to sum up then the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 4.35 pm. After re-convening at 4.50 pm the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That consideration of the application be deferred pending the outcome of the court case.

Councillor Surtees left the meeting

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

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

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director Adults and Health Services which requested Members to determine the suitability of the Applicant to be licensed as a Private Hire Driver (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Applicant advised Members that he had recently completed the DVSA taxi driver assessment test.

The Licensing Enforcement Officer presented the enforcement report. Members and the Applicant were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer.

A Representative from Durham Constabulary was in attendance and provided Members with background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report. Members and the Licence Holder were given the opportunity to ask questions.

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

All parties were invited to sum up then the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 5.20 pm. After re-convening at 5.25 pm the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

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