DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (2)** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Monday 21 February 2022 at 1.30 pm**

Present:

Councillor L Brown (Chair)

Members of the Committee:
Councillors G Hutchinson, L Mavin and D Stoker

Also Present:
S Grigor (Council's Solicitor)
N Anderson (Licensing Enforcement Officer)

1 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor A Watson.

2 Substitutes

There were no substitute Members.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor L Brown declared an Interest in Agenda Item No. 7 and remained in the meeting during consideration thereof.

4 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 ground that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1,2,3 and 5 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

5 Consideration of the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver

The Licence Holder was not present. The Licensing Enforcement Officer reported that the Licence Holder had advised that he would not be in attendance but had confirmed that the hearing could proceed in his absence.

Members considered whether to proceed in the absence of the Licence Holder and agreed that the hearing should proceed.

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change to determine the ongoing suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Officer was in attendance to present the report. Members and the Council's Solicitor were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Licensing Enforcement Officer.

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

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

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

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

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change to determine the 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 present the report. The Licence Holder, Members and the Council's Solicitor were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Licensing Enforcement Officer.

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

After summing up, the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 2.30 pm. After re-convening at 2.55 pm the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence be suspended for 12 months but this be suspended.