

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (1)** held in **Committee Room 1A, County Hall, Durham** on **Wednesday 3 January 2024** at **9.30 am**

Councillor D Brown in the Chair

Members of the Sub-Committee:

Councillors O Gunn, B Kellett and G Hutchinson

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor J Chaplow.

2 Substitutes

No substitute members were in attendance.

3 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2023 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

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 item 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 Driver

The Chair welcomed the Licence Holder and two persons in support of the Licence Holder to the meeting and introductions were made.

The Council's Solicitor outlined the meeting procedure.

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change to determine the ongoing suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver which was presented by the Licensing Enforcement Team Leader (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Team Leader circulated additional information in the form of references in support of the Licence Holder, which had been received over the Christmas holiday period. The first reference was from two persons in support of the Licence Holder who were in attendance at the meeting and therefore the reference was verified. The other references were unverified (for copy of the additional information, see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Team Leader answered questions in relation to the report.

The Licence Holder addressed the Sub-Committee and answered questions.

The persons in support of the Licence Holder also gave a statement.

After all parties were given the opportunity to make a closing statement, the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the matter, in private, at 10.30am. After reconvening at 10.45am, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That no further action be taken.

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

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

The Council's Solicitor outlined the meeting procedure.

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change to determine the ongoing suitability of a joint Hackney Carriage and Private Hire driver, presented by the Senior Licensing Enforcement Officer (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Senior Licensing Enforcement Officer answered questions in relation to the report.

The Licence Holder then addressed the Sub-Committee and answered questions.

The Licence Holder made a closing statement and the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the matter, in private, at 11.30am. After reconvening at 12.45 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That the joint Hackney Carriage and Private Hire driver's licence be revoked with immediate effect.