

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (1)** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Tuesday 18 February 2025** at **1.30 pm**

Present:

Councillor D Brown (Chair)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors A Batey, G Hutchinson and B Kellett

Also Present:

F Swift – Lawyer

I Dargue – Senior Licensing Enforcement Officer

PC A Newcombe

1 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

2 Substitutes

There were no substitute members.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2024 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Any resolution relating to the exclusion of the public during the discussion of items containing exempt information

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 an application to be licensed as a Private Hire Driver

The Chair welcomed the applicant to the meeting and introductions were made.

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change to determine the suitability of the applicant to hold a private hire driver's licence after disclosing offences on the private hire drivers licence application. (for copy see file of minutes).

The Senior Licensing Enforcement Officer presented the report and all parties were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer. He advised that there was an error with a date in the report and gave the correct date for information.

PC Newcombe addressed the Sub-Committee with additional information regarding five further offences committed by the applicant which had not been disclosed on the application. He noted that he had a duty of care as a responsible authority to provide all relevant information upon being consulted.

All parties were given the opportunity to ask questions of the Officer.

The applicant was then invited to address the Sub-Committee and respond to questions from Members and Officers.

After all parties were given the opportunity to make closing statements, the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the matter in private at 2.22pm. After reconvening at 2.40pm the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That the licence be refused.