

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (2)** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 16 October 2013 at 10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor C Carr (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors D Hicks, K Hopper and D Stoker

Also Present:

C Greenlay (Principal Solicitor), H Johnson (Licensing Team Leader), R Young (Licensing Enforcement Officer) and N Thornton (Licensing Enforcement Officer)

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence had been received from Councillor E Bell.

2 Substitutes

There were no substitute members.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 Declarations of Interest

Councillor D Hicks declared an interest in Agenda Item Nos. 7 and 8 and withdrew from the meeting during consideration thereof.

5 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved: 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 involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

6 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Private Hire Driver and Private Hire Operator

(Agenda Item No. 9)

The Licence Holder and his Supporter were welcomed 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 ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Private Hire Driver and continue to hold a Private Hire Operators Licence (for copy see file of minutes).

The Enforcement Team were in attendance to respond to question from Members of the Sub-Committee.

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

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 10.40 am. After reconvening at 11.05 am, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the Licence Holder's Private Hire Driver Licence and Private Hire Operators Licence be revoked.

The following items were considered together.

7 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Private Hire Driver and Private Hire Operator

(Agenda Item No.7)

The Licence Holder and his Partner and Representatives were welcomed 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 ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Private Hire Driver and continue to hold a Private Hire Operators Licence (for copy see file of minutes).

The Licensing Team Leader provided Members with an update in relation to the insurance.

The Enforcement Team were in attendance to respond to question from Members of the Sub-Committee.

The Licence Holder and his Representative addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions from Members of the Sub-Committee. They also provided Members of the Sub-Committee with a copy of the insurance certificate.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 12.15 pm. After reconvening at 12.40 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

- i) That the Licence Holder be given a 12 month written warning in respect of his Private Hire Driving Licence.
- ii) That the Licence Holder's Operator Licence be suspended for 3 months but the suspension be suspended for a period of 12 months.

8 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Driver

(Agenda Item No.8)

The Licence Holder and his Representatives were welcomed 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 ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

The Licensing Team Leader provided Members with an update in relation to the insurance.

The Enforcement Team were in attendance to respond to question from Members of the Sub-Committee.

The Licence Holder and his Representative addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions from Members of the Sub-Committee. They also provided Members of the Sub-Committee with a character reference.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 12.15 pm. After reconvening at 12.40 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence be suspended for 3 months but the suspension be suspended for a period of 12 months.