

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (2)** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 5 March 2014 at 10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor C Carr (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors J Bell, P Crathorne, O Gunn and A Surtees

Also Present:

H Johnson (Licensing Team Leader), G Proud (Legal Officer), G Keay (Licensing Team Leader), S Bassi (Licensing Enforcement Officer) and PCSO M Haigh (Durham Constabulary)

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors E Bell and T Nearney.

2 Substitutes

Councillor J Bell substituted for Councillor E Bell and Councillor O Gunn substituted for Councillor T Nearney.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 Declarations of Interest

Councillor C Carr indicated that he was the Chairman when the Licence Holder previously attended the Licensing Committee but this would not affect his judgement in any way.

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 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 the Local Government Act 1972.

6 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver

The Licence Holder was 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 suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Team were in attendance to present their case and respond to questions from members of the Sub-Committee. The Licensing Enforcement Team showed the Sub-Committee a DVD which was footage of one of the incidents.

Durham Constabulary provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report and indicated that they did not consider the Licence Holder to be a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence.

Members were advised that a page had been omitted from the report.

The meeting adjourned at 10.50 am to allow all parties to receive and digest the information. The meeting re-convened at 10.55 am.

The Licence Holder then addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions from Members of the Sub-Committee. The Licence Holder showed Members of the Sub-Committee footage which he had recorded of incidents involving taxis in Durham City.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.30 am. After reconvening at 11.55 am, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage Driver Licence be revoked.