

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (3)** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 30 April 2014 at 10.00 am**

### **Present:**

**Councillor B Glass (Chairman)**

### **Members of the Committee:**

Councillors D Bell, J Blakey, K Hopper and T Nearney

### **Also Present:**

S Buston (Solicitor) and H Johnson (Licensing Team Leader) and DI Dawson (Durham Constabulary)

#### **1 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

#### **2 Substitute Members**

There were no substitute Members.

#### **3 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **4 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on 10, 19 and 31 March 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **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 involve 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 a Collector's Licence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013**

The applicant and his Solicitor 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 an application for a Collector's Licence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Members had been provided with additional information prior to the meeting from Durham Constabulary, a copy of which had been served on the Applicant yesterday.

The Chairman invited the representative from Durham Constabulary to address the Sub-Committee about the concerns they had raised regarding the application.

The Sub-Committee adjourned at 10.30 am to allow Durham Constabulary to obtain further information. The Sub-Committee re-convened at 11.10 am.

The Applicant and his Solicitor were invited to present his case and responded to questions from Members.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.45 am. After re-convening at 12.00 noon, the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:**

That the application be granted as the Applicant was deemed to be a suitable person to hold a Collector's Licence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013.

**Durham Constabulary withdrew from the meeting at this point.**

**7 Application for a Collector's Licence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013**

Item deferred to a future meeting.

**8 Application for a Collector's Licence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013**

Item withdrawn.

**9 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver**

The Chairman welcomed the Licence Holder 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).

Durham Constabulary were unable to attend the meeting but had indicated that they would recommend that the Licence Holder be issued with a written warning.

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 12.15 pm. After re-convening at 12.20 pm the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:**

That no action be taken.

**10 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver**

The Chairman welcomed the Licence Holder and his representative 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).

Durham Constabulary were unable to attend the meeting but had indicated that they would recommend that the Licence Holder's licence be suspended until he had completed an anger management course.

The Licence Holder and his Representative circulated additional information to Members which had been verified and members were allowed time to read the documents.

The Licence Holder and his Representative then 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 12.50 pm. After re-convening at 1.05 pm the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:**

The Committee resolved to suspend the Licence of the Applicant for four months, however the applicant agreed with the proposal of the Committee that the suspension would not be immediately imposed, but would be suspended, allowing the licence holder to continue working whilst he attended a relationship management course. The suspension would be imposed immediately if any further transgressions were reported to Durham County Council. This suspension will be lifted on 30 August 2014.