

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (2)** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 4 February 2015 at 10.00 am**

### **Present:**

**Councillor C Carr (Chairman)**

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

Councillors J Bell, O Gunn and D Stoker

### **Also Present:**

G Proud (Legal Officer)

H Johnson (Licensing Team Leader)

Sgt Tim Robson (Durham Constabulary)

N Thornton (Licensing Enforcement Officer)

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Geldard.

### **2 Substitutes**

There were no substitute members.

### **3 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **4 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declaration of interest.

### **5 Exclusion of the Public**

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 of the Local Government Act 1972.

### **6 Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage Drivers Licence**

The Chairman welcomed the Applicant 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 Applicant to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

A representative from Durham Constabulary provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report and indicated that they had concerns but no objections to the granting of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence. The Applicant was given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Applicant addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions from Members.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 10.10 am. After reconvening at 10.15 am, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:**

That the Applicant be granted a Hackney Carriage Drivers Licence as he was considered to be a fit and proper person.

**7 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire 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 and Private Hire Driver (for copy see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Officer presented her report and responded to questions.

A representative from Durham Constabulary provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report. The Licence Holder was given the opportunity to ask questions.

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

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 10.45 am. After reconvening at 11.10 am, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:** i) That the Licence Holder's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence be suspended.

ii) That the suspension be lifted once the Licence Holder had undertaken and passed the knowledge and locality test which would be at his expense.

**N Thornton, Licensing Enforcement Officer left the meeting**

**8 Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Licence**

The Chairman welcomed the Applicant 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 Applicant to be granted a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence (for copy see file of minutes).

A representative from Durham Constabulary provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report and indicated that they had objections to the granting of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence. The Applicant was given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Applicant addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions from Members.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 11.35 am. After reconvening at 11.45 am, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:**

That the Applicant be granted a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence but he be issued with a written warning for a 3 month period.

**9 Application for the Grant of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Licence**

The Chairman welcomed the Applicant 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 Applicant to be granted a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence (for copy see file of minutes).

A representative from Durham Constabulary provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report and indicated that they had objections to the granting of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence. The Applicant was given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Applicant and his Representative addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions from Members.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 12.30 pm. After reconvening at 12.45 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

**Resolved:**

That the application for a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence be refused as the applicant was not considered to be a fit and proper person.