

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (1)** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 9 December 2015 at 2.00 pm**

Present:

Councillor C Carr (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors D Boyes, I Geldard, K Hopper and J Maitland

Also Present:

C Hazell (Solicitor)
Johnson (Licensing Team Leader)
L Cloney (Licensing Enforcement Team Leader)
R Young (Licensing Enforcement Officer)
PCSO M Haigh (Durham Constabulary)
PC M Cassidy (Northumbria Police)

1 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2 Substitutes

There were no substitute members.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Exclusion of the Public

That under Section 100(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 the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver

The Chairman welcomed the Licence Holder and his Solicitor 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 and Private Hire Driver (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Officer and representatives from Durham Constabulary and Newcastle Central Neighbourhood Team provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report and responded to questions.

The Licence Holder and his Solicitor addressed the Sub-Committee and responded to questions.

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 3.15 pm. After reconvening at 3.35 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: (i) That the Licence Holder's suspension be lifted but he be issued with a written warning for a 12 month period.

(ii) That the Licence Holder completes an anger management course within 3 months.

7 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver

That the item be deferred.

Councillor D Boyes and PC M Cassidy withdrew from the meeting

R Young, Licensing Enforcement Officer joined the meeting

8 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Hackney Carriage Driver

The Chairman welcomed the Licence Holder and his supporter to the meeting and introductions were made.

The Chairman clarified with the Licence Holder that he was happy for him to be part of the meeting which he confirmed.

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 Driver (for copy of report, see file of minutes).

The Licensing Enforcement Officer and a representative from Durham Constabulary provided background information in respect of the matters detailed in the report and responded to questions.

At this point the complainant joined the meeting and gave his account of events. An opportunity was given for the Licence Holder and Members to ask questions of the complainant.

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

The Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 4.25 pm. After reconvening at 4.30 pm, the Chair delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved: That the Licence Holder be issued with a verbal warning.