

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **General Licensing and Registration Sub-Committee (2)** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 20 September 2017 at 1.30 pm**

Present:

Councillor C Carr (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors M Clarke, C Hampson, J Maitland and A Reed

1 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor K Liddell.

2 Substitutes.

Councillor Hampson substituted for Councillor Liddell.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2017 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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 Schedule 12A of the said Act.

6 Application for the Ongoing Suitability of a Private Hire Driver

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

The Committee considered the report of the Corporate Director of Adult and Health Services which requested Members to determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Private Hire Driver (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Licensing Team Leader informed Members that since the report had been circulated the Licence Holder had submitted a renewal application for a Private Hire Driver Licence for one year. The Sub-Committee were advised that the Licence Holder no longer wanted to be a Hackney Carriage Driver. Therefore Members were asked to determine whether to grant his renewal application for a Private Hire Driver Licence.

The Licensing Enforcement Officer presented the enforcement report and Members and the Licence Holder were invited to ask questions.

Durham Constabulary were not in attendance but had provided a written statement containing information held on their records and the Police National Computer.

The Licence Holder was then invited to address the Sub-Committee and responded to questions.

All parties were invited to sum up then the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 2.15pm. After re-convening at 2.35pm the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That the Licence Holder's Private Hire Driver's renewal application be refused.

7 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 Committee considered a report of the Licensing Team Leader which requested Members to determine the ongoing suitability of the Licence Holder to continue to be licensed as a Hackney Carriage Driver. The Licence was currently suspended (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Licensing Team Leader advised that with the exception of one referee, all the references submitted by the Licence Holder had been verified.

The Licensing Team Leader presented the Licensing Enforcement Report on behalf of the Licensing Enforcement Officer. Members and the Licence Holder were given the opportunity to ask questions.

Durham Constabulary were not in attendance but had provided a written statement containing information held on their records and Police National Computer.

At this point the Trading Standards Officer was invited into the meeting and took Members through the statement contained in the report. The Officer responded to questions from Members and the Licence Holder.

The Licence Holder was invited to address the Sub-Committee and responded to questions.

The Chairman then invited the Licence Holder's supporter to address Members.

All parties were invited to sum up and the Sub-Committee retired to deliberate the application in private at 4.05pm. After re-convening at 4.15pm the Chairman delivered the Sub-Committee's decision.

Resolved:

That

- a) the suspension of the Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence be lifted;
- b) a written warning be issued for the period up to the date of the court case.