

GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE
8TH JANUARY 2013

PRESENT – Councillors Nutt (in the Chair), L. Haszeldine, B. Jones, Lawton, Lee, Stenson, J. Vasey and L. Vasey. (8)

APOLOGIES – Councillors C.L.B. Hughes, D. Jones J. Lyonette, Newall, Thistlethwaite (5)

L33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

L34. MINUTES – Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meetings of this Licensing Committee held on 11th December and 19th December 2012.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes be approved.

L35. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC – RESOLVED – That, pursuant to Sections 100A (4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the ensuing item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in exclusion paragraphs 1, 7 and 14 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

L36. REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCES (EXCLUSION PARAGRAPH NOS 1 AND 7) – The Director of Place submitted a report (previously circulated) inviting Members to consider two reviews of Hackney Carriage Driver Licences.

(1) Ref. No. 01/13 – A review of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence following a conviction of failing to engage the taximeter. The driver addressed the meeting and responded to members questions in relation to the offences, and to why he was a fit a proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence.

After careful consideration, Members agreed that the driver be permitted to retain his licence as this was a first offence with no previous history of committing offences; and that the driver was remorseful in respect of the offence and offered the Committee assurance that this would not happen again. However, Members were concerned about the breach of the licensing legislation and have requested that a warning letter be issued to the driver.

RESOLVED – That the licence be retained with a warning letter in respect of the breach of the licensing legislation and warned that any further convictions of any kind or breaches of the Council byelaws will result in immediate return to the Licensing Committee for further review.

(2) Ref. No. 02/13 – A review of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence following a conviction of failing to engage the taximeter. The driver addressed the meeting and responded to members questions in relation to the offences, and to why he was a fit a proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence.

After careful consideration, Members agreed that the driver be permitted to retain his licence as this was a first offence with no previous history of committing offences; and that the driver was remorseful in respect of the offence and offered the Committee assurance that this would not happen again. However, Members were concerned about the breach of the licensing legislation and have requested that a warning letter be issued to the driver.

RESOLVED – That the licence be retained with a warning letter in respect of the breach of the licensing legislation and warned that any further convictions of any kind or breaches of the Council byelaws will result in immediate return to the Licensing Committee for further review.