

GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE

7TH OCTOBER 2014

PRESENT – Councillor Nutt (in the Chair); Councillors L. Haszeldine, CLB Hughes, D. Jones, the Mayor (Lee), Thistlethwaite, J. Vasey and L. Vasey.
(8)

APOLOGIES – Councillors B. Jones, Lawton, J. Lyonette, Newall and Stenson. (5)

OFFICERS – Pam Ross, Licensing Manager; Sergeant. C. Dickenson Darlington and Durham Police; Amy Wennington, Lawyer and Allison Hill, Democratic Officer.

L22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

L23. MINUTES – Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Committee held on 16 September, 2014.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes be approved as a correct record.

L24. 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 and 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

L25. REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE – The Director of Economic Growth submitted a report (previously circulated) inviting Members to review a private hire driver licence in light of a recent caution and incident.

(1) Ref. No. 20/14 - A review of a Private Hire Driver Licence in respect of a caution for common assault and a recent incident when the driver appeared to attempt to evade the police.

Sergeant Dickenson advised Members of the Committee that the driver was unable to attend the meeting as he was currently in police custody for breaching his bail conditions. She also provided Members with further information which had come to light during investigations which raised questions over the driver's state of health in September 2014 including an admission to hospital.

RESOLVED – (a) That the Private Hire Driver Licence be suspended under Section 61(1)(b) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 as the licence holder could no longer satisfy this Council that they were a fit and proper person to hold this driver licence.

(b) That in accordance with the provisions of Section 52 of the Road Safety Act 2006 this suspension will take immediate effect on the grounds of public safety pending

further information from the driver's General Practitioner and/or Darlington Memorial Hospital.