

GENERAL LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

31 MAY 2016

PRESENT – Councillors L. Haszeldine, Kane, Lee and Nutt. (4)

OFFICERS – David Burrell, Private Sector Housing Manager; Joanna Jackson, Licensing Enforcement Officer; Amy Wennington, Lawyer; Sgt C. Dickenson; and Allison Hill, Democratic Officer.

LGS1. ELECTION OF CHAIR – RESOLVED – That Councillor Nutt be elected Chair for the purpose of this meeting.

LGS2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

LGS3. 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.

LGS4. HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENCE APPLICATIONS – The Director of Economic Growth submitted a report (previously circulated) inviting Members to give consideration to reviews of a hackney carriage driver licence in light of a conviction for a licensing offence and a hackney carriage driver licence in light of an offence of fraud by false representation.

(1) Ref. No. 07/16 – To give consideration to a review of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence in light of a conviction for fail to engage taximeter.

The driver attended the meeting and responded to Members questions in relation to the above, and to why they felt that they were a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence.

In reaching their decision, Members took into consideration the Council's Licensing Policy which advises that the Council will consider it extremely serious when existing holders of licences receive convictions, cautions, reprimands or warnings for licensing matters or receive complaints which result in disciplinary action and that existing holders of licences may expect the council to consider revoking their licence.

After careful consideration the Members decided to permit the driver to retain his licence as they felt that the driver had genuinely forgotten to engage his taximeter because it was one of the busiest nights of the year for the taxi trade, however due to the fact he had received a caution for this same offence previously he be issued with a final warning about his conduct.

RESOLVED – That the licence be retained and the driver be issued with a final warning letter in respect of future conduct and warned that if any further convictions,

cautions, warnings or reprimands are received they would be referred immediately to the General Licensing Sub-Committee.

(2) Ref. No. 08/16 – To give consideration to a review of a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence in light of a conviction for fraud by false representation.

The driver attended the meeting and responded to Members questions in relation to the above, and to why they felt that they were a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence.

In reaching their decision, Members took into consideration the Council's Licensing Policy which advises that the Council will consider it extremely serious when existing holders of licences receive convictions, cautions, reprimands or warnings for licensing matters or receive complaints which result in disciplinary action and that existing holders of licences may expect the council to consider revoking their licence.

After careful consideration the Members decided to permit the driver to retain their licence and issue them with a warning letter in respect of this matter.

RESOLVED – That the licence be retained and the driver be issued with a warning letter in respect of future conduct and warned that if any further convictions, cautions, warnings or reprimands are received they would be referred immediately to the General Licensing Sub-Committee.