

GENERAL LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 8 September 2020

PRESENT – Councillors Donoghue, C L B Hughes, B Jones, Lee and Snedker

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE – Graham Hall (Head of Community Safety), Colin Dobson (Licensing Manager), Allison Hill (Democratic Officer), Brian Murray (Assistant Licensing Manager), Sgt C Dickenson (Durham Constabulary), Bethany Symonds (Lawyer) and Mark Walton (Licensing Enforcement Officer)

LGS5 ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING ONLY

RESOLVED - That Councillor B Jones be elected Chair for the purpose of this meeting

LGS6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported at this meeting.

LGS7 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That, pursuant to Sections 100A (4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during 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 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

LGS8 PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE APPLICATION FOR GRANT (EXCLUSION PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 7)

Ref. 02/20 - The Director of Economic Growth submitted a report (previously circulated) to give further consideration to an application for the grant of a private hire driver licence in light of previous convictions and a current motoring conviction.

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

In reaching their decision, Members took into consideration the Council's Licensing Policy, which sets out the Council's stance on the Relevance of Convictions, Cautions and Endorseable Fixed Penalties in assessing whether an applicant is a fit and proper person; the Council's Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy and Procedures; and Section 51(1)(a) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

After careful consideration Members decided to grant the licence as most of the criminal record was historic and Members felt that the applicant had matured however, there were serious concerns that they had not disclosed their full criminal record from the outset and had no recollection of being cautioned in 2011 so Members agreed to issue the licence with a warning.

RESOLVED - That the licence be granted 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.