

TAXIS COMMITTEE

Thursday, 8th May, 2014 at 5.30 p.m.
in Committee Room 3 at the Council House, Dudley

PRESENT:-

Councillor Body (Chair)
Councillor A Aston (Vice-Chair)
Councillors A Ahmed, Mrs. Ameson, Cowell, Hemingsley, Roberts, Taylor and Vickers

Officers:-

Mr T Holder, Solicitor, Mr M Hanson, Licensing Clerk, and Mrs K Griffiths, Democratic Services Officer (all Directorate of Corporate Resources)

138. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest from Members in accordance with Members' Code of Conduct.

139. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 16th April, 2014, be approved as a correct record and signed.

140. **CHANGE IN ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13(c), it was:-

RESOLVED

That the remaining items of business be considered in the following order:-

Agenda Item Nos. 8, 7, 12, 11, 13, 10 and 9 and that agenda item no. 8 be considered in public.

141. REVIEW OF LICENCE CONDITIONS IN RELATION TO PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR'S LICENCES AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCES – THE USE OF "TAXI AGENTS" IN PUBLIC

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on a proposal that following a period of consultation, conditions be appended to Private Hire Operator's licences and Hackney Carriage Vehicle licence to prevent the use of "taxi agents".

Following consideration of this matter, it was

RESOLVED

- (1) That approval be given for a period of consultation with the taxi trade in order to ascertain whether a condition should be appended to private hire operator's and hackney carriage vehicle licences to prohibit the use of "taxi agents", as outlined in paragraphs 10 and 11 of the report submitted.
- (2) That following the consultation undertaken the matter be referred back to a future meeting of the Committee for determination.

142. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That 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 Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, as indicated below, and in all the circumstances, the public interest in disclosing the information is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure.

<u>Description of item</u>	<u>Relevant Paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A</u>
Review of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr AABH	1

Review of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr SUH	1
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MS	1
Renewal of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr AA	1
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr LT	1
Review of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr QI	1

143. REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR AABH

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on a review of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr AABH, in the light of the information contained in the report submitted.

It was noted that Mr AABH was not in attendance at the meeting in view of him being out of the Country for the foreseeable future.

Arising from consideration of the information submitted, it was:-

RESOLVED

That consideration of the review of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr AABH, be deferred to a future meeting of the Committee.

144. GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR LT

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on an application made on behalf of Mr LT for the grant of a private hire driver's licence.

Mr LT was in attendance at the meeting, together with a supporter.

Mr LT responded to questions asked by the Committee in relation to the information contained in the report. He also informed them that there were no matters pending that they needed to be made aware of.

RESOLVED

That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted and as reported at the meeting, the application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr LT be refused on the grounds that Mr LT is not a fit and proper person, given the offences that he had committed, as outlined in the report submitted.

Mr LT was informed of his right to appeal the decision of the Committee.

145. RENEWAL OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR AA

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on the renewal of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr AA, in the light of the information contained in the report submitted.

Mr AA was in attendance at the meeting.

Mr AA responded to questions asked by the Committee and informed them that there were no matters pending that they needed to be made aware of.

RESOLVED

That, arising from the information contained in the report submitted, and as reported at the meeting, the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr AA, be renewed with effect from the 9th April, 2014 for a period of six months.

146. REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR QI

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on a review of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr QI, in the light of the information contained in the report submitted.

Mr QI was in attendance at the meeting.

Mr QI responded to questions raised by the Committee in relation to the offence committed, as outlined in paragraph 3 of the report submitted. He also informed them that there were no matters pending that they needed to be made aware of.

RESOLVED

That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, and as reported at the meeting, Mr QI receive a written warning as to his future conduct in the light of the offence committed.

147.

GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR MS

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on an application made on behalf of Mr MS for the grant of a private hire driver's licence in the light of his failure to pass, on three separate occasions, his test for local knowledge and the law pertaining to private hire.

It was noted that Mr MS was not in attendance at the meeting in view of him being out of the Country.

Arising from consideration of the information submitted, it was:-

RESOLVED

That the application made for the grant of a private hire driver's licence submitted on behalf of Mr MS, be deferred to a future meeting of the Committee.

148.

REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR SUH

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on a review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr SUH, in the light of the information contained in the report submitted.

Mr SUH was not in attendance at the meeting and notification of his non-attendance had not been received.

Having decided to hear the matter in his absence, it was

RESOLVED

That, following consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr SUH be suspended pending determination of the matter by officers under delegated powers.

Mr SUH would be informed of his right to appeal the decision of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 6.45 pm.

CHAIR