

TAXIS COMMITTEE

Wednesday 29th April, 2009 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room 4 at the Council House, Dudley

PRESENT:-

Councillor Mrs Ameson (in the Chair)
Councillors Attwood, Mrs E Blood, Body, Mrs Coulter, Mrs Greenaway,
James, Mrs Roberts and Ryder

Officers

Interim Assistant Director (Legal and Democratic Services), Licensing
Officer and Ms K Farrington (Directorate of Law, Property and Human
Resources)

Also in attendance

In respect of Agenda Item 7 – Renewal of Hackney Carriage Driver's
Licence – Mr KR

Mrs U Devi and Mr M Hanson – Directorate of Law, Property and Human
Resources (witnesses)

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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of
Councillors Mrs Faulkner and Ms While-Cooper.

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APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

It was noted that Councillors Ryder and Mrs Coulter had been appointed
as substitute members for Councillors Mrs Faulkner and Ms While-Cooper
respectively, for this meeting of the Committee only.

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

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MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Committee held
on 16th April, 2009, be approved as a correct record and signed.

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>
Renewal of Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence – Mr KR	1
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MHA	1
Renewal of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr WA	1
Review of Private Hire Operator's Licence – Mr NK	1
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr RIB	1
Review of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr AR	1
Grant of Private Hire Vehicle Licence – Mr SS	1
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr SS	1
Grant of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr RH	1
Grant of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Miss LN	1
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr ZA	1

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RENEWAL OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR KR

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application for the renewal of the hackney carriage driver's licence issued to Mr KR, in the light of the information contained in the report submitted.

Mr KR was in attendance at the meeting, and responded to numerous questions asked by the Committee in relation to his aggressive attitude towards the licensing staff. 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, approval be given to the renewal of the hackney carriage driver's licence issued to Mr KR for a period of three months with effect from 5th April, 2009 and that he receive a strong written warning as to his future conduct.

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GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR MHA

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence made on behalf of Mr MHA, in the light of the information contained in paragraph 3 of the report submitted.

Mr MHA was not in attendance at the meeting and notification had been received from him that he would be unable to attend due to his current work commitments.

RESOLVED

That further consideration of the application made on behalf of Mr MHA for the grant of a private hire driver's licence be deferred to the next meeting of this Committee.

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RENEWAL OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR WA

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application for the renewal of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr WA, in the light of the information contained in the report submitted.

Mr WA was in attendance at the meeting, and in responding to questions asked by the Committee, informed them that there were no matters pending that they needed to be made aware of.

RESOLVED

- (1) That, following consideration of the information contained in the report submitted and as reported at the meeting, approval be given to the renewal of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr WA for a period of six months with effect from 22nd January 2009.
- (2) That, subject to no offences being committed, any future renewals of licences be determined under delegated powers without the need to attend at Committee.

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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 numbers 11, 12, 14, 13, 16, 17, 10 and 15.

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GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR RB

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence made on behalf of Mr RB, in the light of offences, for which he had been convicted, as outlined in the report submitted.

Mr RB was in attendance at the meeting, and responded to questions asked by the Committee in relation to the offence committed. He also informed them that there were no matters pending that they needed to be made aware of.

RESOLVED

That, following consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, and as reported at the meeting, approval be given to the grant of a private hire driver's licence to Mr RB for a period of twelve months from the date of this meeting.

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REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR AR

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on a review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr AR, in the light of the offences committed as referred to in paragraph 7 and his breach of condition 10 of his private hire driver's licence, as referred to in paragraph 8 of the report submitted.

Mr AR was not in attendance at the meeting and notification had been received from him that he would be unable to attend due ill health.

RESOLVED

That further consideration of the application for the review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr AR be deferred to the next meeting of this Committee.

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GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR SS

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence made on behalf of Mr SS, in the light of the information contained in paragraph 3 of the report submitted.

Mr SS was in attendance at the meeting, and responded to questions asked by the Committee in relation to the offence committed. He also informed them that there were no matters pending that they needed to be made aware of.

RESOLVED

That, following consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, and as reported at the meeting, approval be given to the grant of a private hire driver's licence to Mr SS for a period of twelve months from the date of this meeting.

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GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE – MR SS

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application for the grant of a private hire vehicle licence made on behalf of Mr SS, in the light of the information contained in paragraph 2 and attached at Appendix 1 of the report submitted.

Mr SS was in attendance at the meeting, and responded to numerous questions asked by the Committee.

Arising from a lengthy discussion, the applicant assured the Committee that the proposed business would be aimed at corporate clients, VIP's and professionals only offering an Executive Chauffeur Hire Service.

RESOLVED

- (1) That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report, and Appendix 1 to the report, submitted, and as reported at the meeting, approval be given to the grant of a private hire vehicle licence to Mr SS.

- (2) That, subject to the Licensing Officer discussing additional conditions as requested by the Committee, the special dispensation, in that the vehicle be of a silver colour with no roof sign and the dispensation on the positioning of the licence plate, be approved.
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GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MISS LN

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application for the grant of private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences made on behalf of Miss LN, in the light of the offence for which she had been convicted, as referred to in paragraph 3 of the report submitted.

Miss LN was in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked by the Committee in relation to the offence committed. She 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, approval be given to the grant of private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences to Miss LN for a period of twelve months from the date of this meeting.

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GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR ZA

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence made on behalf of Mr ZA, in the light of the information contained in the report submitted.

Mr ZA was in attendance at the meeting, and responded to questions asked by the Committee in relation to offences committed. He also informed them that there were no matters pending that they needed to be made aware of.

RESOLVED

That, subject to a medical test being undertaken by the Council's Doctor, approval be given to the grant of a private hire driver's licence to Mr ZA for a period of three months from the date of this meeting and that any future renewals be determined by the Committee.

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REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR'S LICENCE – MR NK

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on a review of the private hire operator's licence issued to Mr NK, in the light of the information contained in the report submitted.

Mr NK was not in attendance at the meeting and no explanation as to his non-attendance had been given.

RESOLVED

That further consideration of the review of the private hire operator's licence issued to Mr NK be deferred to the next meeting of this Committee.

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GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR RH

A report of the Interim Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application for the grant of private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences made on behalf of Mr RH, in the light of the offences for which he had been convicted, as referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report submitted.

Mr RH was not in attendance at the meeting and no explanation as to his non-attendance had been given.

RESOLVED

That further consideration of the application for the grant of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr RH be deferred to the next meeting of this Committee.

The meeting ended at 8.10pm.

CHAIRMAN