

## TAXIS COMMITTEE

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 at 6.00pm  
in Committee Room 4 at the Council House, Dudley

### PRESENT:-

Councillor Mrs Ameson (Chairman)  
Councillor K Turner (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillors Mrs Blood, Body, Mrs Greenaway, James and Wright.

### Officers

Interim Assistant Director (Legal and Democratic Services), Licensing Officer, and Miss K Wilson (Directorate of Law, Property and Human Resources).

### Also in attendance

In respect of Agenda Item 5 – Mr A Humphreys, Group Accountant (Directorate of Finance, ICT and Procurement). Also in attendance were Mr Ali and a representative from Dudley Hackney Carriage Association.

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### CHAIRMANS REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Wright to his first meeting of the Taxis Committee as a Member.

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### APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs Roberts.

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### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

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### MINUTES

#### RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2010, be approved as a correct record and signed.

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147

### REVISION OF LICENCE FEES

A joint report of the Director of Corporate Resources and Interim Director of Finance was submitted on the proposed revision of fees for private hire and hackney carriage licences administered by the Committee.

Arising from the presentation of the report by the Interim Assistant Director it was recommended that consideration be given to a 2% increase of the fees, which had been previously set in line with the Council's budget for 2010/11.

Mr Ali then made representations to the effect that a 2% increase would be accepted for the fees of private hire and hackney carriage licences for 2010/11, however, should the fees be increased any further it was considered that this would have a detrimental effect on the income of the taxi drivers.

It was noted that the trade had lodged a formal objection to the Council's accounts for 2008/09 in relation to the taxi licensing accounts.

Following further discussion it was

#### RESOLVED

That, approval be given to an increase in respect of the fees for private hire and hackney carriage licences, as set out in Table A of the report submitted, of 2%.

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#### 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 Policy	1
Review of Private Hire Vehicle Licence – Mr CM	1
Revocation of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr ZM	1

Revocation of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr RA	1
Review of Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence – Mr MR	1
Review of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr IA	1
Review of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr ARC	1
Review of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr MH	1

149      REVIEW OF POLICY

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on a review of the current policy in relation to the submission of a DVLA driving licence on application/renewal of private hire and hackney carriage driving licences.

Arising from the presentation of the report and a brief discussion it was

RESOLVED

That approval be given to the introduction of a policy requiring applicants for the grant/renewal of private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences to sign a DVLA mandate and pay the fee of £5.00.

150      REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE – MR CM

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on a request for special dispensation with regard to Mr CM's mechanical test in respect of his private hire vehicle, in light of the information contained in the report submitted.

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

RESOLVED

That, following consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, and as reported at the meeting, the request for special dispensation with regard to the mechanical test in respect to Mr CM's private hire vehicle be approved and that the conditions as indicated in Appendix 1 be attached to Mr CM's licence.

(At the conclusion of this item, Councillor Mrs Ameson vacated the Chair and Councillor Turner assumed the Chair).

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151

REVOCATION OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES - MR ZM

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on the revocation of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr ZM, in light of the offences committed as indicated in paragraph 13 and his breach of condition 10 of his private hire driver's licence and condition 2 of his hackney carriage driver's licence as outlined in paragraph 14 of the report submitted.

Mr ZM and his representative were in attendance at the meeting, and responded to questions asked by the Committee.

RESOLVED

That, given the disqualification from driving for a period of six months, the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr ZM be revoked with immediate effect.

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REVOCATION OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR RA

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

Mr RA was not in attendance and notification had been received from him that he would be unable to attend. Having decided to hear the matter in his absence, it was

RESOLVED

That, given the disqualification from driving due to his medical condition as indicated in paragraph 4 of the report submitted, the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr RA be revoked with immediate effect.

(At the conclusion of this item, Councillor Mrs Ameson returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair).

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153

REVIEW OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR MR

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on a review of the hackney carriage driver's licence issued to Mr MR, in the light of the offences committed as indicated in paragraph 3 of the report submitted.

Mr MR and his representative were in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked by the Committee. He also informed the meeting 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 MR receive a strong written warning as to his future conduct.

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154

REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR IA

A report of the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on a review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr IA, in the light of the offence committed as indicated in paragraph 4 of the report submitted.

Mr IA and his representative were in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked by the Committee. He also informed the meeting 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, that Mr IA receive a strong written warning as to his future conduct.

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155

REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR ARC

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 ARC, in the light of the offence committed as indicated in paragraph 16 of the report submitted.

Mr ARC and his representative were in attendance and responded to questions asked by the Committee. Mr ARC also informed the meeting 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, Mr ARC receive a strong written warning as to his future conduct.

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REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS'  
LICENCES – MR MH

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 MH, in the light of the offences committed as indicated in paragraph 4 of the report submitted.

Mr MH and his representative were in attendance and responded to questions raised by the Committee. He also informed the meeting 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, the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr MH be suspended for a period of two months in view of the offences for which he had been convicted.

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

The meeting ended at 7.40pm.

CHAIRMAN