

Meeting of the Taxis Committee

Thursday 12th January, 2023 at 6.00pm

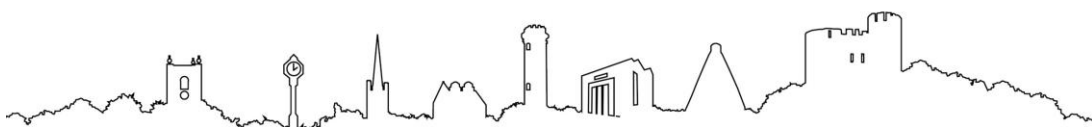
In Committee Room 2 at the Council House, Priory Road, Dudley

Agenda - Public Session

(Meeting open to the public and press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To report the appointment of any substitute members serving for this meeting of the Committee.
3. To receive any declarations of interest under the Members' Code of Conduct.
4. [To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 8th December, 2022 as a correct record \(Pages 5 – 10\)](#)
5. To consider any questions from Members to the Chair where two clear days notice has been given to the Monitoring Officer (Council Procedure Rule 11.8).

Under the provisions of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the Monitoring Officer has decided that there will be no advance disclosure of the following reports because the public interest in disclosing the information is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure

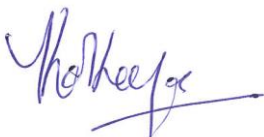


6. Resolution to exclude the public and press.

Chair to move:

“That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information under Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, for the reasons stated on the agenda.”

7. [Application for Review of a Private Hire Driver’s Licence – Mr ID \(Pages 11 - 15\) \(the report contains exempt information relating to an individual\)](#)
8. [Application for Grant of a Private Hire Driver’s Licence – Mr AS \(Pages 16 - 22\) \(the report contains exempt information relating to an individual\)](#)
9. [Application for Grant of a Private Hire Driver’s Licence – Mr NKJ \(Pages 23 – 25\) \(the report contains exempt information relating to an individual\)](#)
10. [Application for Grant of a Private Hire Driver’s Licence – Mr SMC \(Pages 26 – 30\) \(the report contains exempt information relating to an individual\)](#)
11. [Application for Grant of a Private Hire Driver’s Licence – Mr SM \(Pages 31 – 33\) \(the report contains exempt information relating to an individual\)](#)
12. [Application for Review of a Private Hire Driver’s Licence – Mr SH \(Pages 34 – 39\) \(the report contains exempt information relating to an individual\)](#)



Chief Executive

Dated: 4th January, 2023

Distribution:

Councillor A Hopwood (Chair)

Councillor B Challenor (Vice-Chair)

Councillors M Aston, R Body, D Harley, P Lee, A Lees, J Martin and W Sullivan

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To continue to protect vulnerable people, you are asked to note the following information when attending meetings:-

- Do not attend if you feel unwell; if you have tested positive for Covid-19; if you are self-isolating or if you suspect that you are symptomatic.
- Windows/doors will be opened to provide adequate ventilation.
- Sanitise your hands when arriving and leaving the building and wash your hands regularly.
- Hand sanitiser and antibacterial wipes are available at various locations.
- People suffering from long term conditions or living with vulnerable people are encouraged to wear face masks in meeting rooms, communal areas and when moving around the building. Surgical masks are available at reception.
- All people are encouraged to be vaccinated to limit any potential ill-health effects.
- Be respectful of everyone's personal space and preferences when you attend meetings.
- If you cannot maintain distancing or in a crowded environment, please wear a mask

Toilets

- Toilet facilities are available on site and are subject to the Covid-19 secure measures that are in place. All the toilets have hand washing facilities.

No smoking

- There is no smoking on the Council House premises in line with national legislation. It is an offence to smoke in or on the premises. You cannot use e-cigarettes and/or similar vaping devices.

In Case of Emergency

- In the event of the alarms sounding, please leave the building by the nearest exit. There are Officers who will assist you in the event of this happening, please follow their instructions.

Submitting Apologies for Absence

- Elected Members can submit apologies by contacting Democratic Services (see our contact details below). Members wishing to appoint a substitute should notify Democratic Services as soon as possible in advance of the meeting. Any substitute Members must be eligible to serve on the meeting in question (for example, he/she must have received the training required by the Council).

Private and Confidential Information

- Any agendas containing reports with 'exempt' information should be treated as private and confidential. It is your responsibility to ensure that information containing private and personal data is kept safe and secure at all times. Confidential papers should be handed to Democratic Services for secure disposal. If you choose to retain the documents you should ensure that the information is securely stored and destroyed within six months.

General

- Public Wi-Fi is available in the Council House.
- The use of mobile devices or electronic facilities is permitted for the purposes of recording/reporting during the public session of the meeting. The use of any such devices must not disrupt the meeting – Please turn off any ringtones or set your devices to silent.
- Information about the Council and our meetings can be viewed on the website www.dudley.gov.uk

If you need advice or assistance

- If you (or anyone you know) requires assistance to access the venue, or if you have any other queries, please contact Democratic Services - Telephone 01384 815238 or E-mail Democratic.Services@dudley.gov.uk

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**Minutes of the Meeting of the Taxis Committee
Thursday 8th December 2022 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room 2 at the Council House, Dudley**

Present:

Councillor A Hopwood (Chair)
Councillor B Challenor (Vice-Chair)
Councillors M Aston, R Body, D Harley, P Lee, A Lees, J Martin and D Stanley.

Officers:

N Slym – Assistant Team Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement)
(Directorate of Public Realm), S Wright (Solicitor) and G Gray (Democratic
Services Officer)

Also in attendance

L Jury (Democratic Services Officer) – observer

61 **Declarations of interest**

No Member made a declaration of interest, in accordance with the
Members Code of Conduct, in respect of any matters considered at the
meeting.

62 **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10th November, 2022, be
approved as a correct record and signed.

63 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

Resolved

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to an individual(s) as defined under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

64 **Application for Review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr JA**

A report of the Interim Director of Public Realm was submitted to consider the review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr JA.

Mr JA was not in attendance at the meeting, however, notification had been received that he had appealed the endorsements on his Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) mandate as outlined in paragraph 4 of the report submitted.

In light of this information, it was

Resolved

That the review of the Private Hire Driver's Licence issued to Mr JA be deferred pending the outcome of his appeal at the Magistrates Court.

65 **Application for Review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr AM**

A report of the Interim Director of Public Realm was submitted to consider the review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr AM.

Mr AM was in attendance at the meeting and explained the circumstances surrounding the endorsements on his Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) mandate his failure to declare points and breach of condition 12 of his private hire driver's licence.

Mr AM responded to questions asked by the Committee and confirmed that there were no further matters pending that needed to be brought to the Committee's attention.

The Solicitor provided legal advice in relation to the case, following which all parties withdrew from the meeting to enable the Committee to determine the application.

Resolved

That following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, the evidence provided at the meeting and having regard to the Committee Guidelines and Statutory Standards, the Committee were of the view that the Private Hire Licence issued to Mr AM be suspended for one month and due to the serious nature of the matter and in particular that public safety had been compromised this would be with immediate effect, in accordance with Section 61(1)(b) and Section 61(2B) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous) Act 1976, as the Committee determined that by virtue, the endorsement on the DVLA mandate, his failure to declare points and breach of condition 12, amounted to reasonable cause to show that Mr AM was no longer a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

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

66 **Application for Grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MAZ**

A report of the Interim Director of Public Realm was submitted to consider the application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence on behalf of Mr MAZ.

Mr MAZ was in attendance at the meeting and made representations in support of his application and responded to questions asked regarding the conviction outlined in paragraph 5 of the report submitted.

Mr MAZ also confirmed that there were no further matters pending that needed to be brought to the Committee's attention.

The Solicitor provided legal advice in relation to the case, following which all parties withdrew from the meeting to enable the Committee to determine the application.

Resolved

That following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, the evidence provided surrounding the relevant conviction at the meeting and having regard to the Committee Guidelines and Statutory Standards, the Committee were satisfied that Mr MAZ was a fit and proper person, therefore, the Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted.

67 Application for Grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr AMAM

A report of the Interim Director of Public Realm was submitted to consider the application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence on behalf of Mr AMAM.

Mr AMAM was in attendance at the meeting and made representations in support of his application and responded to questions asked regarding his failure to declare on application the conviction outlined in paragraph 5 of the report submitted.

Mr AMAM also confirmed that there were no further matters pending that needed to be brought to the Committee's attention.

The Solicitor provided legal advice in relation to the case, following which all parties withdrew from the meeting to enable the Committee to determine the application.

Resolved

That following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, the evidence provided at the meeting and having regard to the Committee Guidelines and Statutory Standards, the Committee determined that there had been a sufficient passage of time of the relevant conviction, therefore, the Committee were satisfied that Mr AMAM was a fit and proper person and the Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted.

68 Application for Grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MA-U-R

A report of the Interim Director of Public Realm was submitted to consider the application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence on behalf of Mr MA-U-R.

Mr MA-U-R was in attendance at the meeting and made representations in support of his application and responded to questions asked regarding the convictions outlined in paragraph 4 of the report submitted.

Mr MA-U-R also confirmed that there were no further matters pending that needed to be brought to the Committee's attention.

The Solicitor provided legal advice in relation to the case, following which all parties withdrew from the meeting to enable the Committee to determine the application.

Resolved

That following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, the evidence provided at the meeting and having regard to the Committee Guidelines and Statutory Standards, the Committee determined that given the explanation provided, the Committee were satisfied Mr MA-U-R was a fit and proper person to hold a licence, therefore, the Private Hire Driver's Licence be granted to Mr MA-U-R and a warning be issued regarding his future conduct.

69 **Application for Review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MA**

A report of the Interim Director of Public Realm was submitted to consider the review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr MA.

Mr MA was not in attendance at the meeting, however, written consent had been submitted for the Committee to consider the application in his absence. The Committee therefore agreed to consider the application in the absence of Mr MA.

The Assistant Team Manager outlined the report and explained the circumstances surrounding Mr MA's disqualification from driving for a period of six months.

The Solicitor provided legal advice in relation to the case and it was,

Resolved

That following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, the evidence provided at the meeting and having regard to the Committee Guidelines and Statutory Standards, the Committee determined in pursuance of Part II Section 61(1)(b) and (2B) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 that the circumstances surrounding Mr MA's disqualification from driving, as outlined in the report ,amounted to reasonable cause to show he was no longer a fit and proper person to hold a licence and therefore the private hire drivers licence issued to him be revoked.

The Committee further resolved that as Mr MA had been disqualified from driving by the DVLA and therefore in the interests of public safety the revocation of his licence under this section shall take immediate effect

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

The meeting ended at 7.55pm.

CHAIR