

PUBLIC PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

23 JULY 2015

PRESENT

Councillor M. Whetton (in the Chair).

Councillors B. Sharp (Vice-Chairman), S.K. Anstee, A. Duffield, D. Jarman, M. Sephton and J. Smith

In attendance

D. Adcock	- Solicitor
J. Boyle	- Licensing Team Leader
N. Owen	- Democratic and Scrutiny Officer

Also Present

Councillor P. Gratrix (Substitute for Councillor M. Freeman)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Coupe and M. Freeman

8. EXCLUSION RESOLUTION (REMAINING ITEMS)

RESOLVED: That the public be excluded from this meeting during consideration of the following items on the agenda because of the likelihood of disclosure of "exempt information" which falls within one or more descriptive category or categories of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, as specified.

9. PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER - FAILURE TO PRODUCE DBS DISCLOSURE

The Head of Regulatory Services submitted a report requesting Members to consider the failure of a private hire driver to produce a current DBS disclosure and to respond to any requests from the Licensing Office.

The Licensing Team Leader informed the Sub-Committee that a DBS check is done on each licensed driver every three years. The disclosure is sent directly to the driver and the Council requires the driver to produce the disclosure as soon as it is issued.

Mr S. S. A attended the Licensing Office in February to renew his Private Hire driver's licence. He completed a DBS application form at that time which was forwarded to the DBS for processing.

On 30th March 2015 a letter was sent to Mr S. S. A advising him that a check had been done of the DBS tracking system and that the Licensing Office were aware

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that a disclosure had been issued to him on 26th March 2015. He was advised to produce the disclosure or his licence would be suspended.

Two further attempts were made to contact Mr S. S. A by telephone on the 17th and 28th April 2015 but with no success. Mr S. S. A's Private Hire driver's licence was suspended by letter on the 19th May 2015. All the private hire operators were advised not to give Mr S. S. A work until the suspension had been lifted.

An email was sent to Mr S. S. A on 15th June 2015 advising him that the matter would be reported to the Sub-Committee unless he responded within 48 hours.

On 6th July 2015 a copy of the original suspension letter was hand delivered to Mr S. S. A's last known address. The letter was accepted by a woman who claimed that he was currently on holiday.

Mr S S A did not attend the meeting.

The Sub-Committee determined that he was no longer a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

RESOLVED: That Mr S. S. A's Private Hire driver's licence be revoked.

10. HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER - CONVICTION WHICH EXCEEDS THE SCHEME DELEGATION

The Head of Regulatory Services submitted a report requesting Members to consider a Hackney Carriage driver's conviction. The driver attended the meeting to enable Members to give the matter their full consideration.

The driver provided the Sub-Committee with a brief outline of what he said were the circumstances of the offence.

Mr. P. J spoke in support of the driver and the Sub-Committee had been given a copy of an email sent to the Chairman of the Sub-Committee and copied to the Licensing Team Leader in support of the driver by Mr. P. K.

RESOLVED: That Mr. A. S' Hackney Carriage driver's licence be renewed.

11. PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER - DRIVING OFFENCE WHICH EXCEEDS THE SCHEME OF DELEGATION

The Head of Regulatory Services submitted a report requesting Members to consider a Private Hire driver's driving offence. The driver attended the meeting to enable Members to give the matter their full consideration.

The driver provided the Sub-Committee with a brief outline of what he said were the circumstances of the offence.

RESOLVED: That no further action be taken against Mr. A. J. B.

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The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and finished at 7.40 pm