

MINUTES OF	GENERAL LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE PANEL
MEETING DATE	Monday, 16 September 2019
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Councillors Renee Blow (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Jacky Alty, Jane Bell, Peter Mullineaux and Jacqui Mort
OFFICERS:	Mark Marshall (Head of Licensing), Stephanie Fairbrother (Licensing Officer), Tasneem Safdar (Senior Solicitor) and Charlotte Lynch (Democratic and Member Services Officer)
OTHER MEMBERS AND OFFICERS:	Justin Abbotts (Licensing Officer)

22 Apologies for absence

None.

23 Declarations of Any Interest

None.

24 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED: (Unanimously)

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Schedule 12a to the Local Government Act 1972.

By Virtue of Paragraph 1: Information relating to any individual.

25 Renewal of a Private Hire Drivers Licence

The application was brought before the Panel as the Applicant had provided a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate which showed a conviction that had not been disclosed to the Council.

The Chair referred those present to the circulated established procedure for hearings and the process that would be followed.

The Applicant was present at the hearing and made representations, explaining to the Panel the reasons as to why he had not informed the Council of the offence.

Representations were also received from the Council's Head of Licensing who explained the process for applying for a licence and declaring any criminal convictions.

The panel were of the view that given the conviction and the fact that the Applicant had failed to disclose this information, this was not a situation which merited no further action. Members were, however, mindful of the Applicant's unblemished record with no previous convictions or complaints and the fact that he had shown genuine remorse for his actions.

RESOLVED: (Unanimously)

That the Applicant's Private Hire Drivers Licence be suspended for a period of five weeks.

26 Application for a Hackney Carriage Drivers Licence

The Panel received a report which detailed an application for a new Hackney Carriage Licence. The application was brought before the Panel as the applicant had provided a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate showing convictions that warranted further investigation.

The Chair referred those present to the circulated established procedure for hearings and the process that would be followed.

The Applicant was present at the hearing and made representations, explaining to the Panel the details of the incident.

Representations were also received from the Council's Licensing Officer who informed the Panel that the Applicant had willingly supplied all supporting documentation, including police interview transcripts.

The Panel were of the view that the Applicant had not dealt with the circumstances appropriately. This raised concerns in respect of the character of the applicant. The Panel were also of the view that no exceptional circumstances had been shown by the Applicant which would allow them to depart from their policy.

RESOLVED: (Unanimously)

That the Panel refuse to grant the licence on the basis that they were not of the view that, on the balance of probabilities, the applicant is a fit and proper person.

Chair

Date