

Minutes of	General Licensing Sub-Committee
Meeting date	Tuesday, 28 November 2023
Members present:	Councillors James Gleeson, Paul Wharton-Hardman (Chair) and Hilary Bedford
Officers:	Chris Ward (Licensing Manager), Tasneem Safdar (Shared Legal Services Team Leader) and Coral Astbury (Democratic and Member Services Officer)
Other members and	

Other members and officers:

Public: 0

# 36 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Jane Bell.

## 37 Declarations of Any Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 38 Procedure

The Chair outlined the procedure to be followed.

## 39 Exclusion of the Press and Public

## **Resolved:**

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

## 40 New Licenced Driver Application

The Licensing Manager, Mr Chris Ward outlined a confidential report of the Interim Deputy Chief Executive and explained the application was referred to members for a decision as the applicant had a conviction on his DBS certificate which triggers the Taxi Licence Policy. The applicant had also failed to declare the conviction.

The applicant was present at the hearing.

Members were requested to consider the report and decide whether to grant or refuse the application, taking into consideration all evidence put before them.

When summing up the Licensing Manager explained that members were required to determine whether the applicant was a 'fit and proper person' to be granted a licence. The Licensing Manager also explained that members could deviate away from the policy wording only if they thought there were exceptional circumstances. If members still had concerns, they were advised to refuse the licence. The Licensing Manager also outlined the fit and proper test and asked members to consider this when making their decision.

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The applicant answered questions from Members who wished to know why the convictions had not been declared.

In reaching its decision the sub-committee considered the following:

- 1. Both Written and Oral Evidence presented in connection with the hearing
- 2. The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976/Town Police Clauses Act 1847 (where applicable)
- 3. Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy Section 8.1
- 4. The Statutory Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Standards guidance
- 5. The Statutory fit and proper person test.

#### Members resolved: -

To refuse the Private Hire Driver's Licence.

Chair

Date