

**LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 12th DECEMBER, 2017

Present – Councillors Donaghy (Chairman), Burrows (as deputy for Councillor Murray), J. Byrne (as deputy for Councillor McKeon), Chadwick, Gibbon, Gillies, Greenhalgh, Haslam, Haworth, Mistry (as deputy for Councillor L. Byrne), Newall, Sherrington (as deputy for Councillor Watters) and P. Wild

(Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors L. Byrne, McKeon, Murray and Watters.)

Councillor Donaghy in the Chair.

65. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of previous meetings held on 14th November, 2017 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

**66. MINUTES OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE
(SENSITIVE CASES)**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee (Sensitive Cases) held on 14th November, 2017 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

**67. MINUTES OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE
(TRAFFIC MATTERS)**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee (Traffic Matters) held on 21st November, 2017 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

68. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved – That, under Section (100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the 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 specified

in paragraph 3 (financial and business affairs) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act; and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in its exemption outweighs the public interest in its disclosure.

69. APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO DRIVE A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LER/56/17

The Director of Place submitted report which set out details of an application which had been received for a licence to drive a private hire vehicle. The report went onto set out details of a previous conviction by the applicant.

The applicant attended the meeting and provided verbal evidence.

The Committee also heard verbal evidence from the Licensing Officer.

Resolved – That the private hire driver's licence be granted, subject to standard conditions, as set out in the report.

70. APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO DRIVE A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LER/57/17

The Director of Place submitted report which set out details of an application which had been received for a licence to drive a private hire vehicle. The report went onto set out details of a previous conviction by the applicant.

The applicant attended the meeting and provided verbal evidence.

The Committee also heard verbal evidence from the Licensing Officer.

Resolved – That the licence to drive a private hire vehicle be refused on the basis that the Committee is not satisfied that the driver is a fit and proper person to hold a licence at this time.

Following consideration of all the evidence the Committee noted that the applicant had a conviction for exceeding the

speed limit on a motorway from March, 2016. Drivers are placed in a position of trust and have a duty to conduct themselves in a lawful and professional manner at all times.

The Committee also took account of the following –

- The applicant had a conviction for exceeding the speed limit on a motorway from March, 2016 and this was an intermediate traffic offence under the Council's Policy and a conviction less than two years will generally mean that a person applying for a licence, will normally have the application refused.

Members of the public and in particular, the elderly, infirm and children or vulnerable adults entrust their personal safety and wellbeing to private hire drivers whenever they take a journey. Passengers often travel alone and are vulnerable to inappropriate behaviour.

The Committee's primary duty is of concern for the safety and well-being of the public.

There is therefore reasonable cause to refuse to grant the private hire drivers licence.

71. APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of an application which had been received for the grant of a hackney carriage vehicle licence. The report further explained that the previous licence had expired.

The Committee heard verbal representations from a representative of the applicant and from the licensing officer.

Resolved – That the application for a new hackney carriage vehicle licence be granted owing to the exceptional circumstances in this case.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 3.25pm)