

**LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION
COMMITTEE**

MEETING, 14TH JULY, 2021

Present – Councillors Mrs Fairclough (Vice-Chairman), Flitcroft, Galloway, Grant, Jiva, Khurram, Mistry (as deputy for Councillor Haworth) and Taylor-Burke.

Councillor Mrs Fairclough, Chairman

5. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Resolved – That the minutes of the proceedings of meetings held on 15th June, 2021 be submitted and signed as a correct record.

6. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved – That, under Section 100(A) (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.

**7. APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO OPERATE
PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES (LER/13/2021)**

The Director of Place submitted a report which gave details of an application which had been received to operate private hire vehicles.

The report set out details of the application which included a request to vary the terms and conditions to reflect the applicant's business model.

The applicants attended the meeting and provided verbal evidence.

The Licensing Officer gave verbal evidence.

It was moved by Councillor Khurram and Seconded by Councillor Haslam that the application be granted and approval be given to vary the terms and conditions, as set out in the report.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Mistry, Khurram, Jiva, Galloway, Haslam, Mrs. Fairclough, Taylor-Burke, Flitcroft and Grant.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

8. APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO OPERATE PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES (LER/14/2021)

The Director of Place submitted a report which gave details of an application which had been received to operate private hire vehicles.

The report set out details of the application which included a request to vary the terms and conditions to reflect the applicant's business model.

The applicants attended the meeting and provided verbal evidence.

The Licensing Officer gave verbal evidence.

It was moved by Councillor Grant and Seconded by Councillor Jiva that the application be granted and approval be given to vary the terms and conditions, as set out in the report, subject to the number of passengers recorded at the point of booking being kept as a condition.

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Mistry, Khurram, Jiva, Galloway, Haslam, Mrs. Fairclough, Taylor-Burke, Flitcroft and Grant.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil.

Whereupon the motion was declared carried.

9. APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO DRIVE PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES (LER/15/2021)

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of an application for a licence to drive private hire vehicles where the driver had numerous previous convictions.

The applicant attended the meeting.

It was moved by Councillor Haslam and seconded by Councillor Grant that the application for a licence to drive private hire vehicles be refused.

Where upon the Motion was put to the vote and the voting was as follows, viz -

For the Motion, Viz –

Councillors Mistry, Khurram, Jiva, Galloway, Haslam, Mrs. Fairclough, Taylor-Burke, Flitcroft and Grant.

Against the Motion, Viz –

Nil

Abstain, Viz –

Nil

Whereupon the Motion was declared carried and it was specifically resolved –

That the application to drive private hire vehicles be refused as the Committee is not satisfied that the driver is a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

The Committee also took account of –

- The litany of offences which included multiple offences of dishonesty, licensing offences, motoring offences and also offences of violence; and
- Matters around the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability.

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.

(The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 3.40 pm)