

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE (TRAFFIC MATTERS)

MEETING, 9th SEPTEMBER, 2014

Present – Councillors D. Burrows, L. Byrne, Cunliffe (as deputy for Councillor Jones), Haslam and Wild.

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Evans and Jones.

4. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Resolved – That Councillor D. Burrows be appointed Chairman for this meeting.

Councillor D. Burrows, Chairman

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 24th June, 2014 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

6. 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.

7. MISCONDUCT BY LICENSED PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS

The Director of Environmental Services submitted a report which provided details of five drivers who had been convicted of offences during the period of their licences.

The drivers in relation to reports, LERSC/06/14(a), LERSC/06/14(b), LERSC/06/14(d) and LERSC/06/14(e), attended the meeting.

Resolved – (i) That in respect of report numbered LERSC/06/14 (a) the licence to drive a private hire vehicle be suspended for a period of three weeks on the basis that the Sub-Committee are not satisfied that he is a fit and proper person to hold a licence at this time.

In coming to its decision the Sub-Committee was mindful of its duty to protect the public and the offences of speeding from December, 2013 and January, 2014 were intermediate traffic offences under the Council's Policy. Drivers have a duty to keep to the speed limits and exceeding the speed limit can be a danger to the public.

There is reasonable cause to suspend the licence as a warning and a deterrent.

(ii) That in respect of report numbered LERSC/06/14 (b) no further action be taken regarding the licence to drive a private hire vehicle but a warning letter be issued reminding the driver of the need to comply with road traffic signs.

(iii) That in respect of report numbered LERSC/06/14 (c) consideration of this matter be deferred until a future meeting of this Sub-Committee.

(iv) That in respect of report numbered LERSC/06/14 (d) the licence to drive a private hire vehicle be suspended for a period of two weeks on the basis that the Sub-Committee are not satisfied that he is a fit and proper person to hold a licence at this time.

In coming to its decision the Sub-Committee was mindful of its duty to protect the public and the offence of speeding from August, 2013 was a minor traffic offence under the Council's Policy. Drivers have a duty to keep to the speed limits and exceeding the speed limit can be a danger to the public.

The driver also failed to declare the conviction in accordance with the conditions of his licence.

There is reasonable cause to suspend the licence as a warning and a deterrent.

(v) That in respect of report numbered LERSC/06/14 (e) no further action be taken regarding the licence to drive a private hire vehicle but a warning letter be issued reminding the driver of the need to maintain his vehicle properly.

(The meeting started at 5.30pm and finished at 6.24pm)