

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 23 September 2008

PRESENT: Councillor Taylor (Chair); Councillor Wilson (Deputy Chair); Councillors Caswell, Choudary, R Conroy, Duncan, C Lill and PM Varnsberry

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors I Markham, Matthews and Tavener.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on 7th July were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

3. DEPUTATIONS / PUBLIC ADDRESSES

There were none

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

5. MATTERS OF URGENCY WHICH BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE CHAIR IS OF THE OPINION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED

There were none.

6. ADDITIONAL TESTING STATION FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

The Licensing Officer referred the Committee to the report and explained that, having followed the proper processes, there were now two approved vehicle-testing centres to ensure that a high standard of testing was carried out on Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles licensed by the Council. These were named as Jackson's MOT Centre and Northampton Clutch Specialists.

The Chair congratulated the successful applicants and assured them of the Committee's support and that of the Licensing Enforcement Officers when required. She stressed the importance of high quality testing to promote the care, safety and protection of passengers carried in these vehicles. The Committee expressed their gratitude to Licensing Officers for their hard work in securing the contracts.

RESOLVED:

That the appointment of Jackson's MOT Centre and Northampton Clutch Specialists as Testing Stations for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles for the Borough of Northampton be confirmed.

7. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Chair moved that the Public and Press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that there was likely to be disclosure to them of such categories of exempt information as defined by Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 as listed against such items of business by reference to the appropriate paragraph of Schedule 12A to such

Act.

The Motion was Carried.

8. REVIEW OF DRIVER AND OPERATOR LICENCE

The Committee considered representations made and, after seeking legal advice from the Solicitor, made their decision based on the evidence heard.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the driver's Private Hire Driver's licence be suspended for a period of six months.**
- (2) That the review of the Operator's licence be adjourned until the next meeting of the Committee on 4th November to allow time for additional information to be verified.**

The meeting concluded at 19:10

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