

NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Monday, 16 October 2017

PRESENT: Councillor Flavell (Chair); Councillor Sargeant (Deputy Chair); Councillors Ansell, Culbard, Duffy, Beardsworth, Walker and Haque

OFFICERS: Louise Faulkner (Licensing Team Leader), Ian Ellis (Senior Licensing Enforcement Officer), Eleanor Flannery (Licensing Enforcement Officer), Jason Toyne (Licensing Enforcement Officer), James Chadwick (Senior Litigation Solicitor), Ed Bostock (Democratic Services Officer)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Caswell.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes from the meeting held on 12th September 2017 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

3. DEPUTATIONS / PUBLIC ADDRESSES

There were none.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Haque declared a personal non-pecuniary interest in item 9 by virtue of knowing the driver.

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

The Chair drew Members' attention to an email that had been circulated from the Deputy Mayor of London. The email pointed out that there were taxis and private hire vehicles licensed in London but working across the country, and other local authorities had been asked to support changes in legislation to address these practices.

It was brought to Members' attention a circular from the Local Government Association, with an attachment titled "Briefing Debate on the future of Taxi and Private Hire Vehicles, House of Commons" which was concerned with the same issues.

RESOLVED:

The Committee agreed to support the recommendations of the Deputy Mayor of London and to feed into any forums as necessary.

6. 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. APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Licensing Enforcement Officer outlined the circumstances as set out in the report.

The Committee heard the representations made and reached a decision with regard to any further action to be taken.

RESOLVED:

The Committee decided that the applicant was, on a balance of probability, a fit and proper person to be licensed as a Private Hire Driver and granted the application.

7. APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Licensing Enforcement Officer outlined the circumstances as set out in the report.

The Committee heard the representations made and reached a decision with regard to any further action to be taken.

RESOLVED:

The Committee decided that the applicant was, on a balance of probability, a fit and proper person to be licensed as a Private Hire driver and granted the application.

9. REVIEW OF COMBINED DRIVER LICENCE

The Licensing Team Leader outlined the circumstances as set out in the report.

The Committee heard the representations made and reached a decision with regard to any further action to be taken.

RESOLVED:

The Committee decided that the applicant was, on a balance of probability, not a fit and proper person to be licensed as a Combined Driver and revoked the licence with immediate effect.

The meeting concluded at 8:20 pm