



TAXI AND GENERAL SUB COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON
MONDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 3.40 P.M.**

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Simmonds - Chair

Councillors:

W. David, Ms J. Gale

Together with:

A. Dicks (Assistant Licensing Manager), J. Lloyd (Senior Licensing Administrator), T. Rawson (Solicitor), R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer)

Together with:

Licensed driver (Mr X) and his employer

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at the beginning or during the course of the meeting.

3. EXEMPT MATTER

Members considered the public interest test certificate from the Proper Officer and concluded that on balance the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information and it was

RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure to them of exempt information as identified in paragraph 12 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

4. LICENSING OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE /PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVERS

For the reasons disclosed at the meeting, it was agreed that the employer accompanying Mr X be permitted to remain in the meeting room for the duration of the exempt session.

Members were informed that information had been received which suggested that a licensed driver may no longer be considered fit and proper to hold a hackney carriage/private hire vehicle driver's licence or private hire vehicle operator's licence, and therefore the matter had been referred to the Taxi and General Sub Committee for determination.

It was explained that an allegation made by a taxi passenger against Mr X had been brought to the attention of the Licensing Department. In light of this information, the Licensing Authority are required under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 to consider and determine whether the individual remains a fit and proper person to hold a hackney carriage/private hire vehicle driver's licence.

The Sub Committee considered the report of the Assistant Licensing Manager in relation to the allegation made against licensed driver Mr X, together with a witness statement from the complainant that was tabled at the meeting. Members were also referred to the Council's Fitness Criteria for Drivers and Operators and the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy, which sets out the fitness criteria for drivers and the relevance of criminal or unsatisfactory behaviour. The Sub Committee carefully listened to Mr X's explanation of the incident in question, and considered supporting documents supplied by Mr X and his employer at the meeting.

Having regard to the Officer's report and all the representations made, the Sub Committee unanimously RESOLVED that the matter be deferred to the first available date, in order to allow the complainant an opportunity to attend the meeting so that the Sub Committee can ask them questions regarding their statement.

The Chair thanked all parties for their attendance and the meeting closed at 4.34 p.m.