

TAXI AND GENERAL SUB COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON THURSDAY, 15TH JUNE 2017 AT 10.00 A.M

PRESENT:

Councillor D.W.R. Preece - Chair

Councillors:

M. Davies, Mrs D. Price

Also present: Councillor J. Simmonds

Together with:

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

Together with:

Legal representative for Mr X, Driver's spouse (Mrs X)

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 family member accompanied by Mr X's legal representative be permitted to remain in the meeting room for the duration of the exempt session.

The legal representative for Mr X referred to the report of the Assistant Licensing Manager, together with a complainant letter and information from Gwent Police attached to that report, in relation to allegations made against Mr X. During the course of his verbal submissions, the legal representative requested that the matter be adjourned until after 4th July 2017, when there may be further information available for the Sub Committee to consider the matter.

The Sub Committee retired at 10.25 a.m. to make a decision regarding the request for an adjournment.

The meeting reconvened at 11.00 a.m. and the Legal Advisor to the Sub Committee informed all parties present that the Sub Committee had unanimously determined that there had not been sufficient reason demonstrated to justify an adjournment, nor was it in the public interest to delay, and therefore the meeting would proceed as planned, as there was a need to consider the matter as soon as possible.

The legal representative requested a brief recess to receive instructions from his client and the Sub Committee adjourned at 11.04 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11.10 a.m. and the legal representative explained that following discussion with his client, Mr X had agreed to surrender his hackney carriage/private hire vehicle driver's licence with immediate effect. It was noted that as a result, there was no longer a matter for the Sub Committee to consider.

The Assistant Licensing Manager explained that she would advise Mr X to confirm his intentions to surrender his licence in writing to the Licensing Department, and that the complainant would be advised of the outcome of the meeting.

The Chair thanked all parties for their attendance and the meeting closed at 11.13 a.m.