



TAXI AND GENERAL SUB COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON
THURSDAY, 1ST NOVEMBER 2018 AT 10.00 AM

PRESENT

Councillor D.W.R. Preece - Chair

Councillors:

Ms J. Gale, W. Williams

Together with:

L. Morgan (Licensing Manager), J. Lloyd (Senior Licensing Officer), S. Lewis-Williams (Licensing Officer), T. Rawson (Solicitor), E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer) and R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer)

Together with:

Applicant (Mr J) and a local taxi proprietor

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

In accordance with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Licensing Authority has to be satisfied that a person issued with a hackney carriage/ private hire vehicle driver's licence or private hire vehicle operator's licence is a fit and proper person to hold such a licence.

Members were informed that an application for a hackney carriage/private hire vehicle driver's licence had been received from Mr J, which failed to meet the Authority's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Policy and Conditions, including the Fitness Criteria for Drivers and Operators. Therefore the matter had been referred to the Taxi and General Sub Committee for determination.

The Sub Committee considered the report of the Senior Licensing Officer and Members were referred to the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Policy and Conditions and Fitness Criteria for Drivers and Operators. They also carefully listened to Mr J's explanation of the circumstances surrounding his application, and considered a supporting explanation made by his companion.

Having regard to the Officer's report and all the representations made, and for the reasons disclosed at the meeting, the Sub Committee unanimously RESOLVED that the application for a hackney carriage/private hire vehicle driver's licence be refused on the grounds that the applicant is not a fit and proper person to hold such a licence.

In making their decision, the Sub Committee held that they were not adequately satisfied with the explanations given by Mr J in respect of his application. They held concerns as to the character of the applicant and gave consideration to the overriding need to safeguard the public in this regard.

The Legal Advisor informed Mr J that if he was aggrieved by the decision, then he had 21 days following receipt of the written decision notice to appeal to the local Magistrates Court.

The Chair thanked all parties for their attendance and the meeting closed at 11.06 a.m.