



TAXI AND GENERAL SUB COMMITTEE
19TH APRIL 2017

PUBLIC INTEREST TEST –
EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION
SCHEDULE 12A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

SUBJECT: LICENSING OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVERS

REPORT BY: PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR

I have considered grounds for exemption of information contained in the report referred to above and make the following recommendations to the Proper Officer:-

EXEMPTIONS APPLYING TO THE REPORT:

Information relating to a particular individual (para 12)

FACTORS IN FAVOUR OF DISCLOSURE:

There is a public interest with regard to disclosing personal information of persons who are granted a taxi licence. In addition there can be a public interest with regard to disclosing personal information of a person(s) who are making a complaint.

PREJUDICE WHICH WOULD RESULT IF THE INFORMATION WERE DISCLOSED:

The report includes sensitive personal information which has been provided by a third party and is not readily available in the public domain. The report also includes personal information, which would identify the complainants.

MY VIEW ON THE PUBLIC INTEREST TEST IS AS FOLLOWS:

That paragraph 12 should apply. My view on the public interest test is that whilst there is a need to ensure transparency and accountability of a Public Authority for decisions taken in relation to taxi drivers, this must be balanced against the fact that the information has been received in confidence and is not already in the public domain and at this stage the need to protect the individual's privacy outweighs the need for the information to be made public.

This information is not affected by any other statutory provision, which requires the information to be publicly registered.

On that basis I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption does outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information. Members are asked to consider this factor when determining the public interest test, which they must decide when considering excluding the public from this part of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED DECISION ON EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE:

On that basis I feel that the public interest in maintaining the exemption does outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information and that the information should be exempt.

Date: 5th April 2017

Signed: 
Bethan Manners

Post: Principal Solicitor

I/~~do not~~ accept the recommendation made above.

Signed: 

Proper Officer

Date: 5/4/17