

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Licensing Committee held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Thursday 8 April 2021 at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors C Ahern (Convener), D Illingworth (Vice-Convener), K Baird, A Coates (up to and including Item 4), A Parrott, C Stewart, W Robertson and M Williamson (up to and including Item 4).

In Attendance: PC Leigh-ann Gregge and PC Kerry Thomson-Craig, (both Police Scotland); M McLaren, D Gilkison, S Michie, A Taylor and A Brown (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors, R Brock, R McCall, J Rebbeck and F Sarwar.

Councillor C Ahern (Convener), Presiding.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Convener welcomed all present to the meeting. Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In terms of Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillor A Coates declared a non-financial interest in Item P1.

3. MINUTES

The Minute of Meeting of the Licensing Committee of 18 February 2021 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. GRANT OF TAXI OPERATOR LICENCE – X32

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (21/46) regarding the Grant of Taxi Operator Licence No. X32.

The applicant was in attendance, he addressed the Committee and answered members' questions.

FOLLOWING A SHORT ADJOURNMENT, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED

Resolved:

- (i) Grant of Taxi Operator Licence X32 be refused, on the grounds that it would contravene the policy currently in place regarding the limit on taxi numbers in Perth.
- (ii) Following the release of the Unmet Demand Survey, the Licensing Manager be instructed to look at the current policy with a view to bringing this to a future meeting for discussion on possible changes that could be made to the policy.

- (iii) If there are any material changes made to the current policy in the near future, the usual one-year ban for the applicant on re-applying for a licence be lifted.

THERE FOLLOWED A 10 MINUTE RECESS, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED at 11.50AM

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973.

HAVING DECLARED AN INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM, COUNCILLOR A COATES LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT.

P1. GRANT OF TAXI / PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVERS' LICENCE – TD1520

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (21/47) regarding Grant of Taxi / Private Hire Car Drivers' Licence No. TD1520.

The applicant was in attendance.

The representative of Police Scotland addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions. The applicant also addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions.

FOLLOWING A SHORT ADJOURNMENT, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Resolved:

Grant of Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence TD1520 be refused, on the grounds that the applicant is not a fit and proper person to be the holder of a Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence.

P2. RENEWAL OF TAXI / PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVERS' LICENCE – TD1630

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (21/21) regarding Renewal of Taxi / Private Hire Car Drivers' Licence No. TD1630.

The licence holder was in attendance.

The representative of Police Scotland addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions. The Licensing Standards Officer addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions. The licence holder also addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions.

FOLLOWING A SHORT ADJOURNMENT, THE COMMITTEE RECONVENED.

Resolved:

Taxi/Private Hire Car Drivers' Licence TD1630 be renewed for a period of 1 year with effect from the date of the holders last application for renewal, being 6 July 2020.