LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Licensing Committee held in the Council Chambers, Ground Floor, Council Building, 2 High Street, Perth on Thursday 24 May 2018 at 2.00pm.

Present: Councillors R Brock (Convener), I James (Vice-Convener), C Ahern, B Brawn, A Coates, D Illingworth, A Jarvis and A Parrott.

In Attendance: PC D Black (Police Scotland); M McLaren, D Merchant, S Michie and A Taylor (all Corporate and Democratic Services).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors B Pover, J Rebbeck, F Sarwar, L Simpson and R Watters.

Councillor R Brock (Convener), Presiding.

304. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

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

305. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

306. MINUTES

The Minute of Meeting of the Licensing Committee of 12 April 2018 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

307. LIMIT ON TAXI NUMBERS IN PERTH AND BLAIRGOWRIE

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (18/188) outlining the findings and recommendations of the recent survey carried out on the demand for taxis in Perth and Blairgowrie

Mr McDonald, LVSA, was in attendance, addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions.

Resolved:
(i)   The findings of the survey carried out by HKZ Services Ltd, trading as LVSA, as detailed in Appendix A of Report 18/188 be noted.
(ii)   It be agreed that the current limits of 70 operator licenses and 12 operator licenses granted by the Council for the areas of Perth and Blairgowrie respectively remain unchanged.

(iii)   It be agreed that the Council engage further with the taxi trade and stakeholders to identify whether there are any further steps which they should take to increase the availability of wheelchair accessible vehicles.

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.

308.   SUSPENSION OF TAXI/PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER'S LICENCE NO TD1451

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (18/189) together with a letter of objection from Police Scotland dated 22 January 2018 in terms of Schedule 1, Paragraph 11(2)(a) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 regarding suspension of Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence (TD1451).

The Committee noted that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda at the request of the applicant.

THE COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO VARY THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

309.   GRANT OF TAXI/PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER'S LICENCE NO. TD1756

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (18/191) together with letter of objection from Police Scotland dated 10 May 2018 regarding application for grant of a Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence TD1756.

The applicant and his representative were in attendance.

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

Resolved:
Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence TD1756 be granted for a period of 1 year with effect from 24 May 2018.

310.   GRANT OF TAXI/PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER'S LICENCE NO. TD1749

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Governance Services (18/190) together with a letter of representation dated 18 April 2018 from Police Scotland regarding Grant of Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence No. TD1749.

The applicant failed to attend.

The representative from Police Scotland addressed the Committee and answered Members' questions.

Resolved:

The application for grant of Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver's Licence TD1749 be deferred to the next meeting of the Licensing Committee.

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