

MINUTE of MEETING of the LICENSING COMMITTEE (PRIVATE) held within WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING, on 16 JUNE 2021.

Present – Councillors Peter Heggie (Chair), Harry Cartmill, Jim Dickson, David Dodds, Chris Horne

Apologies – Councillor George Paul

1. MINUTE

The committee confirmed the draft Minute of its meeting held on Wednesday 24 March 2021 as a correct record.

2. PRIVATE

The Committee resolved under Section 50(A) (4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 12 and 14 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

3. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 - TAXI DRIVER'S LICENCE – ITEM 6

The license holder was in attendance and represented by his solicitor Mr Dick Sandeman.

Police Scotland was represented by Inspector Alan Struthers.

Introductions were made by all parties and the procedures explained.

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Chief Solicitor with regard to the taxi driver's licence.

It was recommended that the committee consider a further suspension or revocation of the license holders licence under Paragraph 11 of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

Decision

To suspend with immediate effect for the unexpired portion of the duration of the licence in terms of Paragraph 11(2)(c) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

4. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 - TAXI OPERATORS LICENCE - ITEM 7

The committee noted that a Punjabi interpreter had been requested. However it had not been possible to acquire this service therefore the item of business was postponed to the next scheduled meeting on 7 July

2021.

Decision

To adjourn to 7 July 2021 for a Punjabi interpreter to be arranged for the license holder.

5. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 - TAXI DRIVER'S LICENCE - ITEM 8

The committee noted that a Punjabi interpreter had been requested. However it had not been possible to acquire this service therefore the item of business was postponed to the next scheduled meeting on 7 July 2021.

Decision

To adjourn to 7 July 2021 for a Punjabi interpreter to be arranged for the license holder.

6. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 - PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER'S LICENCE - ITEM 9

The committee noted that the licence holder was not in attendance at the virtual meeting.

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Chief Solicitor with regard to the private hire car driver's licence.

It was recommended that an immediate suspension be considered on the grounds of public safety in view of the fact that the license holder had disclosed a medical condition which may affect their fitness to drive a licensed hire car vehicle.

Decision

1. To suspend the private hire car driver's licence with immediate effect for the unexpired portion of the duration of the licence.
2. To delegate authority to the Chief Solicitor to recall the suspension when the licence holder is certified as fit to drive by the council's medical advisors.

7. NOTE ACTION TAKEN IN TERMS OF STANDING ORDER 31 (URGENT BUSINESS)

The committee noted the following action taken in terms of Standing Order 31 (Urgent Business): -

- To immediately suspend a taxi driver's licence on 21 May 2021.

