

No.

PUBLIC PROTECTION LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Remote Meeting held on 12th November, 2024

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

The Meeting recording is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor P. Drake (Chair); Councillor J.M. Norman (Vice-Chair);
Councillors G. Bruce, V.P. Driscoll, R. Fisher, C.P. Franks, E. Goodjohn,
W.A. Hennessy, N.B. Marshallsea, M.J.G. Morgan and S.T. Wiliam.

ANNOUNCEMENT –

Prior to the commencement of the business of the Committee, the Chair read the following statement: “May I remind everyone present that the meeting will be live streamed as well as recorded via the internet and this recording archived for future viewing”.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from Councillors L. Burnett, H.C. Hamilton, R. Sivagnanam and M.R. Wilkinson.

MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 11th June, 2024 be approved as a correct record.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC –

RESOLVED – T H A T under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Act, the relevant paragraphs of the Schedule being referred to in brackets after the minute heading.

No.

DISCIPLINARY FOR CURRENT HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER – S (DEH) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPHS 12, 13 AND 14) –

Committee was asked to determine whether S was a fit and proper person to hold Vale of Glamorgan Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licences.

The Senior Licensing Officer (Enforcement) summarised the report which provided detail regarding recent driving offences that subsequently required consideration by the Committee.

Following the Officer's presentation of the report, the Chair invited S to make verbal representations regarding the events described in the report and provide mitigation.

Members of the Committee subsequently questioned S in relation to the content of their representation and the report and sought clarity on a number of current and historical matters. Following this, S, the Licensing Team Manager and the Senior Licensing Officer (Enforcement) disconnected from the meeting, and the Committee deliberated the matter in private. Committee, having considered the report and evidence presented and having taken into account all representations,

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T having regard to the report, the Guidelines adopted by the Public Protection Licensing Committee and representations made by S, Members of the Committee held a vote and determined that S was a fit and proper person to hold Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licences.

(2) T H A T S receive a final written warning in light of the Committee's concerns regarding their recent and historical motoring convictions and conduct as a driver, with the understanding that should S be convicted of any additional offence S would come back before Committee to consider removal of their licence.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To ensure decisions of the Licensing Authority were consistent with the adopted guidance on determining the suitability of applicants and licensees in the hackney and private hire trades.

(2) To ensure that S was reminded of the higher standards the Vale of Glamorgan Council expects of its licensees and of their responsibility to abide by all conditions subject to the terms of their licences. Members were satisfied that there were personal circumstances that were in play at the time that one of the offences was committed, that had no bearing on S's professional life given S was in a private vehicle and not on duty when the offence occurred, however both recent offences were not considered conduct befitting of a licensed driver. Members were similarly concerned with the number of points that S had accrued from driving in excess of the speed limit within a relatively short period of time and wanted to impress upon S the need to be extremely vigilant when driving in the future.

No.

DISCIPLINARY FOR DRIVER – O (DEH) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPHS 12, 13 AND 14) –

Committee was asked to determine whether O was a fit and proper person to hold Vale of Glamorgan Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licences.

The Senior Licensing Officer (Enforcement) summarised the report which provided detail regarding O not providing notification in writing to the Local Authority within seven days of pending criminal investigation and the outcome thereof.

Following the Officer's presentation of the report, the Chair invited O to make verbal representations regarding the events described in the report and provide mitigation.

Members of the Committee subsequently questioned O in relation to the content of their representation and the report and sought clarity on a number of current and historical matters. Following this, O, the Licensing Team Manager and the Senior Licensing Officer (Enforcement) disconnected from the meeting, and the Committee deliberated the matter in private. Committee, having considered the report and evidence presented and having taken into account all representations,

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T having considered the facts of the report and the Council's policy, and after hearing from O, Members of the Committee held a vote and determined that O was not a fit and proper person to hold Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Driver Licences.
- (2) T H A T O had failed to disclose information to the Local Authority related to their licence as stated in the Public Protection Licensing Committee adopted Guidance on Determining the Suitability of Applicants and Licensees in the Hackney and Private Hire Trades.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure decisions of the Licensing Authority were consistent with the adopted guidance on determining the suitability of applicants and licensees in the hackney and private hire trades.
- (2) To ensure that O was aware that there had been a failure to disclose important information to the Local Authority related to their licence which should have been declared within seven days.