

MINUTE
of
LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting held at 10.00am in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Giffnock, on 10 June 2025.

Present:

Councillor Paul Edlin
Councillor Kate Campbell

Councillor Colm Merrick
Councillor David Macdonald
Councillor Andrew Morrison

(*) indicates remote attendance

Attending:

Nicola McEleny, Senior Solicitor; David Higgins, Civic Licensing Standards Officer; Jillian McGrain, Senior Officer (Private Sector); Andrew Reid, Empty Homes Officer; Lesleyann Burns, Democratic Services Officer and Bethany Mitchell, Assistant Democratic Services Officer

Also Attending:

Inspector Allan Ferris, Police Scotland and Sergeant Emma Gardner.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1221. There were no declarations of interest intimated.

VEHICLE AGE LIMITS

1222. The Committee considered a report by the Clerk to consider approval to review the age limits for taxi and private hire vehicles.

The report set out that given the current economic climate, licence holders pursued through representation to have the age limits removed. It detailed relevant legislation from The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

Following discussion, the Committee agreed:-

- (a) to remove the age threshold for taxi and private hire vehicles at initial point of licensing; and
- (b) to remove the upper age threshold for taxi and private hire vehicles.

Resolution to Exclude Press and Public

At this point in the meeting, on the motion of the Chair, the Committee unanimously resolved that in accordance with the provisions of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 6 and 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Act.

PRIVATE LANDLORD REGISTRATION

1223. The committee considered a report by the Director of Environment regarding an application for inclusion on the Register of Social Landlords under the terms of the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004, as amended (agenda item 4 refers).

The Senior Housing Officer (Private Sector) was heard in respect of the application and in response to questions from Members.

The applicant was then heard in respect of the application and in response to questions.

The Committee agreed to a short adjournment to consider the matter.

Following discussion the committee concluded that the applicant was a 'fit and proper' person to be entered upon the register of private landlords and approved the Applicant's application for landlord registration.

PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – APPLICATION FOR GRANT

1224. The Committee considered a report by the Chief Officer (Legal and Procurement) in relation to an application for the grant of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence (agenda item 5 refers).

The applicant was present.

Inspector Alan Ferris and Sergeant Emma Gardner, representing the Chief Constable, who had made an objection to the application, were also present.

Inspector Ferris was heard in respect of the representation submitted by the Chief Constable and in response to questions from members.

The applicant was then heard in respect of the application.

The Committee agreed to a short adjournment to consider the matter.

On reconvening, the Committee, having taken account of the applicant's previous convictions, their seriousness and relevance to the licence being applied for, and also having taken account of the representation by the Chief Constable, agreed that the application be refused on the grounds that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to be the holder of such a licence.

PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – ALLEGED BREACH OF LICENSING CONDITIONS

1225. The Committee considered a report by the Chief Officer (Legal and Procurement) in relation to an alleged breach of conditions of a Private Hire Car Driver's Licence (agenda item 6 refers).

The licensee was present.

The licensee was then heard in respect of the allegations and made representations in relation to same.

Having heard from the Licensee the Committee considered there was insufficient evidence to uphold the allegations made and made the decision not to revoke the Licence's Private Hire Car Operator's Licence or Private Hire Driver's Licence.

CHAIR

