

## TAXIS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2006 at 6.00 p.m.  
in Committee Room 4 at the Council House, Dudley

### PRESENT:-

Councillor Musk (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs. Ameson (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillors Mrs. Aston, Cotterill, Mrs. Faulkner, Mrs. Patrick, Tomkinson,  
A. Turner and Wright

### Officers

Principal Lawyer and Mr. J. Jablonski (Directorate of Law and Property)

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### MINUTES

#### RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2006, be approved as a correct record and signed, subject to the inclusion of the following:-

(a) Declarations of Interest

That there were no declarations of interest from Members in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

(b) Apologies for absence

That apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs. Ameson, Mrs. Patrick, A. Turner and Wright.

(c) Appointment of Substitutes for the meeting

That Councillors Mrs. Cowell, Ryder and Taylor be appointed as substitutes for Councillors Mrs. Ameson, A. Turner and Wright for this meeting of the Committee only.

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### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Members in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.

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REVISION OF LICENCE FEES

A joint report of the Director of Law and Property and the Director of Finance was submitted on a proposed revision of fees for private hire and hackney carriage licences administered by the Committee.

Arising from the consideration given to this matter, including the need for greater public awareness regarding the difference between hackney carriage and private hire vehicles and implications for passengers regarding their use, possibly by the inclusion of an article in the Community Newspaper, it was

RESOLVED

That fees for private hire and hackney carriage licences, administered by the Committee, be revised in line with Column (3) of Table A in paragraph 5 of the report submitted, showing an increase of inflation plus 1%.

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EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A to the Act, in particular the paragraph of Part 1 of that Schedule indicated below:-

<u>Description of Item</u>	<u>Relevant Paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A</u>
Renewal of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr. AA	4
Review of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr. KM	4
Renewal of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr. AM	4
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr. MH	4

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146      RENEWAL OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - MR. AA

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application made on behalf of a Mr. AA, for the renewal of his private hire driver's licence.

Mr. AA was in attendance at the meeting and, in responding to questions asked by the Committee, informed them that there were no matters pending that needed to be brought to their attention.

RESOLVED

That approval be given to the renewal of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr. AA for a period of six months with effect from 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2006.

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147      CHANGE IN ORDER OF BUSINESS

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13(c) it was

RESOLVED

That Agenda Item Numbers 9 and 10, be considered after Agenda Item Numbers 11 and 12.

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148      GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES - MR. MH

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application made on behalf of a Mr. MH for the grant of private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences.

Mr. MH was in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked regarding the convictions outlined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report submitted.

Mr. MH also made representations in support of his application.

RESOLVED

That, arising from consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, and the representations made at the meeting, the application for the grant of private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences made on behalf of Mr. MH be refused, given his history of convictions, as outlined in the report submitted, for alcohol abuse and dishonesty and in the light of this, the Committee consider that he is not a fit and proper person to be licensed to drive private hire and hackney carriage vehicles.

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REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES - MR. MS

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on the proposed revocation of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr. MS in the light of the medical information outlined in the report submitted.

Mr. MS was in attendance at the meeting, together with his son, and it was reported by the Licensing Officer that further information had been received from Mr. MS's medical practitioner which would enable the Committee, should it so wish, to consider suspension of the licences, rather than revocation.

Mr. MS then confirmed the information received from his medical practitioner regarding his medical condition and his ability to drive.

Given the information as now reported at the meeting, it was

RESOLVED

That the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr. MS be suspended pending receipt of a report from an independent medical practitioner that Mr. MS was medically fit to drive private hire and hackney carriage vehicles.

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REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR KM

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on a review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr. KM in the light of information set out in paragraph 4 of the report submitted arising from a Criminal Records Bureau check.

Mr. KM was not in attendance at the meeting and as he had not attended on a previous occasion, the Committee decided to hear the matter in his absence.

Arising from the consideration given to this matter, it was

RESOLVED

That the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr. KM be suspended until 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2006, as there were unanswered questions in respect of the matter under review.

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RENEWAL OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - MR. AM

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on an application made on behalf of Mr. AM for the renewal of his private hire driver's licence.

Mr. AM was not in attendance at the meeting and, following consideration of this matter, it was

RESOLVED

That further consideration of the application made on behalf of Mr. AM for the renewal of his private hire driver's licence be deferred pending his attendance at a future meeting of the Committee and that his right to drive be withdrawn.

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The meeting ended at 7.20 pm

CHAIRMAN