

TAXIS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 12th April, 2006, 6.00 pm
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)

164 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

165 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 15th March, 2006, be approved as a correct record and signed.

166 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that:-

- (a) They involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as indicated below:- and
- (b) In all these circumstances the public interest in disclosing the information is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure.

<u>Description of Item</u>	<u>Relevant Paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A</u>
Review of Private Hire Operator's Licence – Mr AW	1
Review of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MRQ	1
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr AA	1
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MKG	1
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MS	1
Revocation of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr MY	1
Review of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr MI	1

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REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR'S LICENCE – MR AW

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on a review of the private hire operator's licence issued to Mr AW in the light of a complaint received, as summarized in paragraph 3 of the report submitted.

Mr AW was in attendance at the meeting together with his representative. The Principal Lawyer informed Members that the complainant in this case, a Mrs W, was unable to attend the meeting but that in his opinion there was sufficient information for Members to hear the case in her absence. However, should they proceed and then consider that the issues could not be resolved without the presence of Mrs W the matter could be adjourned to a future date. Members agreed that the hearing proceed.

Mr AW was then asked a number of questions relating to the complaint as set out in the report submitted and he and his representative responded to the questions asked.

RESOLVED

That, arising from the responses given, in particular those relating to certain operating practices of Mr AW, Mr AW receive a written warning as to his future conduct.

168 REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR MRQ

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on a review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr MRQ in the light of a complaint that had been received, as set out in the report submitted.

Mr MRQ was in attendance at the meeting together with his representative. The complainant in this case, a Mrs SC, was not able to attend and the Principal Lawyer again advised that although she was absent Members could proceed to hear this matter. Members then agreed that the hearing proceed.

In response to an initial question Mr MRQ indicated that he had nothing further to say and following this he and his representative responded to questions asked by Members on the complaint received as indicated in the report submitted.

RESOLVED

That, arising from consideration of the responses given, the Committee find that aspects of the complaint are proven relating to unprofessional conduct on behalf of Mr MRQ and that accordingly he receive a written warning as to his future conduct.

169 GRANT 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 Mr AA for the grant of a private hire driver's licence.

Mr AA was in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked in particular regarding the caution referred to in paragraph 3 of the report submitted. He also indicated that there were no matters pending that needed to be brought to the attention of the Committee.

RESOLVED

That, subject to Mr AA satisfactorily completing a medical check, Mr AA be granted a private hire driver's licence for a period of three months.

170 GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR MKG

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

Mr MKG was in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked by Members regarding the convictions declared, as set out in paragraph 3 of the report submitted. Mr MKG also informed the Committee that he had recently committed an offence of speeding for which he had received three penalty points. There were no other matters pending that needed to be brought to the attention of the Committee.

RESOLVED

That approval be given to the grant of a private hire driver's licence to Mr MKG for a period of three months from the date of this meeting.

171 GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR MS

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

Mr MS was in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked by Members regarding the allegations set out in paragraph 3 of the report submitted. Mr MS also informed the Committee that there were no matters pending that need to be brought to their attention.

RESOLVED

That approval be given to the grant of a private hire driver's licence to Mr MS for a period of three months from the date of this meeting.

172 REVOCAION OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR MY

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 MY in the light of his DVLA driving licence having been revoked.

In view of the revocation of his driving licence it was

RESOLVED

That the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr MY be revoked.

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REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR MI

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on a review of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr MI in the light of offences for which he had been convicted as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report submitted. Members were also informed that Mr MI had appealed against elements of the convictions received and that his appeal would be heard on 18th May, 2006.

In the light of this latest information it was

RESOLVED

That further consideration of the review of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr MI be deferred to a meeting of the Committee to be held after 18th May, 2006.

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COMMENTS OF THE CHAIRMAN

As this was the last scheduled meeting of the Committee in the current municipal year the Chairman thanked Members of the Committee for the support given to him during the period of his chairmanship and in particular referred to those Members who were standing for re-election in the forthcoming local elections and those Members who were not standing for re-election.

In response the Chairman was thanked for the help and support given by him and as he was not standing for re-election Members expressed their best wishes to him for the future.

The meeting ended at 8.00 pm

CHAIRMAN