

Meeting of the Taxis Committee

Wednesday 15th September, 2021 at 6.00pm

In Committee Room 2 at the Council House, Priory Road, Dudley

Agenda - Public Session

(Meeting open to the public and press)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To report the appointment of any substitute members serving for this meeting of the Committee.
3. To receive any declarations of interest under the Members' Code of Conduct.
4. [To confirm and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 12th August, 2021 as a correct record.](#)
5. To consider any questions from Members to the Chair where two clear days notice has been given to the Monitoring Officer (Council Procedure Rule 11.8).

Under the provisions of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the Monitoring Officer has decided that there will be no advance disclosure of the following reports because the public interest in disclosing the information is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure

6. Resolution to exclude the public and press.

Chair to move:

“That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information under Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, for the reasons stated on the agenda.”

7. [Review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr ZA \(Pages 1 - 6\) \(the report contains exempt information relating to an individual\)](#)



8. [Application for Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr RWL \(Pages 7 - 11\)](#) (the report contains exempt information relating to an individual)



Chief Executive

Dated: 7th September, 2021

Distribution:

Councillor A Hopwood (Chair)

Councillor K Lewis (Vice-Chair)

Councillors M Aston, I Bevan, B Challenor, R Body, P Drake, D Harley, and E Lawrence

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Face

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Space

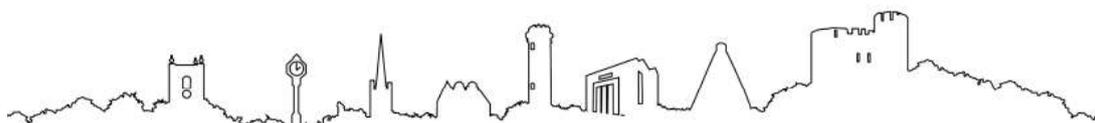
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Submitting Apologies for Absence

- Elected Members can submit apologies by contacting Democratic Services (see our contact details below). Members wishing to appoint a substitute should notify Democratic Services as soon as possible in advance of the meeting. Any substitute Members must be eligible to serve on the meeting in question (for example, he/she must have received the training required by the Council).

Private and Confidential Information

- Any agendas containing reports with 'exempt' information should be treated as private and confidential. It is your responsibility to ensure that information containing private and personal data is kept safe and secure at all times. Confidential papers should be handed to Democratic Services for secure disposal. If you choose to retain the documents you should ensure that the information is securely stored and destroyed within six months.

General

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- The use of mobile devices or electronic facilities is permitted for the purposes of recording/reporting during the public session of the meeting. The use of any such devices must not disrupt the meeting – Please turn off any ringtones or set your devices to silent.
- Information about the Council and our meetings can be viewed on the website [**www.dudley.gov.uk**](http://www.dudley.gov.uk)

If you need advice or assistance

- If you (or anyone you know) requires assistance to access the venue, or if you have any other queries, please contact Democratic Services - Telephone 01384 815238 or E-mail [**Democratic.Services@dudley.gov.uk**](mailto:Democratic.Services@dudley.gov.uk)



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Taxis Committee
Thursday 12th August, 2021 at 6.00 pm
in the Council Chamber, Council House, Dudley**

Present:

Councillor A Hopwood (Chair)
Councillor K Lewis (Vice-Chair)
Councillors A Aston, M Aston, I Bevan, J Clinton, D Harley and W Sullivan.

Officers:-

S Smith – Team Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement) (Directorate of Public Realm),
S Wright – Solicitor, H Mills - Democratic Services Officer and G Gray – Assistant Democratic
Services Officer (Directorate of Finance and Legal).

10 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Body, B Challenor, P Drake and E Lawrence.

11 **Appointment of Substitute Members**

It was noted that Councillors A Aston, J Clinton and W Sullivan had been appointed to serve as substitutes for Councillors R Body, E Lawrence and B Challenor, respectively, for this meeting of the Committee only.

12 **Declarations of interest**

No Member made a declaration of interest, in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct, in respect of any matter considered at the meeting.

13 **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7th July, 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed.

14 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

Resolved

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to an individual(s) as defined under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

15 **Review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr FUI**

A report of the Acting Director of Public Realm was submitted to consider the review of a private hire driver's licence issued to Mr FUI.

Mr FUI, together with his representative Mr H, was in attendance at the meeting.

Mr H made representations on behalf of Mr FUI, and in doing so explained the circumstances surrounding the offences, as set out in the report.

Mr FUI responded to questions asked by the Committee and confirmed that there were no further matters pending that needed to be brought to their attention.

Following a legal summary by the Solicitor, all parties withdrew from the meeting to enable the Committee to determine the application.

Resolved

That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, the evidence provided at the meeting and having regard to the Committee Guidelines and Statutory Guidance, in pursuance of Part II Section 61(1)(b) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Private Hire Driver's Licence issued to Mr FUI, be suspended for a period of one month, due to the offences amounting to reasonable cause to show that he was not a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

Mr FUI was informed of his right to appeal the Committee's decision.

16 **Review of a Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence – Mr MM**

A report of the Acting Director of Public Realm was submitted to consider the review of the private hire and hackney carriage driver's licence issued to Mr MM.

Mr MM had confirmed that he was unable to attend the meeting, as he was out of the country, however his son, Mr M was in attendance on his behalf.

The Solicitor informed the Committee that whilst a decision could be determined in the absence of Mr MM, this should be made cautiously, as Mr MM was not in attendance to answer questions or present his own case.

Following a legal summary by the Solicitor, all parties withdrew from the meeting.

Resolved

That consideration of the application for the review of the private hire and hackney carriage driver's licence issued to Mr MM be deferred to a future meeting upon Mr MM's return to the UK.

17 **Application for Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MS**

A report of the Acting Director of Public Realm was submitted to consider the application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence in respect of Mr MS.

Mr MS was in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked by the Committee in relation to the circumstances surrounding the offences and non-disclosure of offences, as set out in the report.

Mr MS confirmed that there were no further matters pending that needed to be brought to the Committee's attention, following which, a legal summary was provided by the Solicitor.

All parties withdrew from the meeting to enable the Committee to determine the application.

Resolved

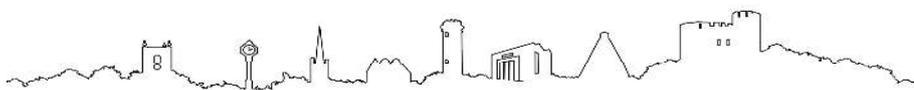
That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, the evidence provided at the meeting and having regard to the Committee Guidelines and Statutory Guidance, in pursuance of Section 51 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the application for grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence in respect of Mr MS, be refused, as the Committee was not satisfied that the applicant was a fit and proper person to be granted a private hire driver's licence, due to his previous offences and failure to disclose the offences.



Mr MS was informed of his right to appeal the Committee's decision.

The meeting ended at 7.15pm

CHAIR



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