

TAXIS COMMITTEE

Thursday, 25th March, 2004 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT:-

Councillor Male (in the Chair)
Councillors Mrs Ameson, Mrs Aston, Mrs Bowkley, Bramall, Mrs
Faulkner, Johnson and Musk, together with the Assistant Director, Legal
and Democratic Services and Mr J Jablonski (Directorate of Law and
Property).

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MINUTES

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 18th February, 2004, be approved as a correct record and signed.
- (2) That the word "driver's" in the preamble and in resolution (1) of Minute number 118 of the meeting of the Committee held on 18th December, 2003, be deleted and the word "vehicle" substituted therefor.

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No member made a declaration of interest in accordance with the
Member's Code of Conduct.

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APOLOGY

An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of
Councillor Crumpton.

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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 that paragraph of Part I of that schedule indicated below: -

<u>Description of Item</u>	<u>Relevant Paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A</u>
Renewal of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr YA	4
Renewal of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr YM	4
Review of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr R	4
Renewal of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr A	4
Renewal of Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence – Mr MZ	4
Review of Hackney Carriage fares.	4

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RENEWAL OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR YA

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on the renewal of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr YA.

Prior to consideration of this item it was reported that Mr YA was unable to attend this meeting of the Committee in view of the need to attend a funeral in London and therefore requested a deferment.

RESOLVED

That consideration of the renewal of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr YA be deferred for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee.

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RENEWAL OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE - MR YM

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on the renewal of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr YM.

Mr YM and his representative were in attendance at the meeting and the reasons why he had not previously attended meetings of the Committee when asked to do so were given.

During consideration of this matter it was noted that there were no other matters pending that needed to be brought to the attention of the Committee.

RESOLVED

That, approval be given to the renewal of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr YM for a period of twelve months with effect from the 31st January, 2004.

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REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR R

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on a review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr R in the light of the offence for which he had been convicted, as indicated in paragraph 2.5 of the report submitted and the breach of condition 10 on his private hire driver's licence.

During consideration of this matter it was also reported that Mr R had notified the Licensing Office of a Notice of Intended Prosecution arising from a speeding offence committed on 5th March, 2004.

Mr R was in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked by the Committee regarding the offences committed. Mr R also confirmed that there were no other matters pending that needed to be brought to the attention of the Committee.

RESOLVED

That, in view of the previous number of offences for which Mr R had been convicted and the latest offences, as reported at this meeting, Mr R received a final strong written warning as to his future conduct.

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RENEWAL OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR A

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on the renewal of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr A in the light of the offence which he had been convicted as indicated in paragraph 2.3 of the report submitted.

This matter had previously been deferred from the meeting of the Committee held on 18th February, 2004, and, in the light of the circumstances reported at the meeting a further deferment was requested so that Mr A's Solicitor could be present at the meeting.

RESOLVED

That, in view of the circumstances reported at the meeting, consideration of this matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee to be held on 27th April, 2004 and that Mr A be informed that the matter would proceed at that meeting whether or not he and/or his Solicitor were in attendance.

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RENEWAL OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR MZ

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on a renewal of the hackney carriage driver's licence issued to Mr MZ the light of the non disclosure of relevant information as indicated in the report submitted.

Mr MZ was in attendance at the meeting and during consideration of this matter it was noted that the content of paragraph 2.20 of the report was not factually correct and therefore should be ignored.

The Assistant Director, Legal and Democratic Services, also read out the content of a letter from the current Solicitors of Mr MZ in response to the content of the report submitted which they had asked should be taken into account when the Committee considered this matter.

Mr MZ responded to questions asked by the Committee regarding, in particular, the instances cited in the report regarding the failure to disclose the relevant information on application forms for a hackney carriage driver's licence.

During the consideration of this matter, Mr MZ reported that there were no other matters pending that needed to be brought to the attention of the Committee.

Arising from the detailed questioning of Mr MZ and his responses to the questions asked, it was:

RESOLVED

That, having considered the information in the report submitted and the representations made at the meeting, the Committee refuse to renew the hackney carriage driver's licence issued to Mr MZ on the grounds that this was the second occasion on which he had failed to disclose key information in relation to his application for a licence.

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REVIEW OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on a request received from the Dudley Taxi Association for the revision of hackney carriage fares as set out in Appendix 2 to the report submitted.

Arising from the consideration given to this matter and the comments made by representatives of the Dudley Taxi Alliance, it was:

RESOLVED

That approval be given to the request received from the Dudley Taxi Alliance for a revision of hackney carriage fares as set out in Appendix 2 to the report submitted and that public notice of this decision be given by the Director of Law and Property and that should any objections be made and not withdrawn, consideration be given to such objections at a future meeting of this Committee.

The meeting ended at 8.10 pm.

CHAIR