

TAXIS COMMITTEE

Wednesday 15th March 2006 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room 3 at the Council House, Dudley

PRESENT:-

Councillor Musk (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs Ameson (Vice-Chairman)
Councillors Mrs Aston, Mrs Coulter, Mrs Dunn, Tomkinson, A Turner and Wright

Officers

Assistant Director (Legal and Democratic Services) and Ms K Smith
(Directorate of Law and Property)

152 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received on behalf of Councillors Cotterill, Mrs Faulkner and Mrs Patrick.

153 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES FOR THE MEETING

It was noted that Councillors Mrs Coulter and Mrs Dunn had been appointed as substitutes for Councillors Cotterill and Mrs Faulkner respectively, for this meeting of the Committee only.

154 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

155 MINUTES

RESOLVED

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

156 LICENSING OF THE NISSAN PRIMASTER NX8 TAXI

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted to consider whether the Nissan Primaster NX8 Taxi should be licensed as a hackney carriage.

Arising from the consideration given to this matter, it was

RESOLVED

That the Nissan Primaster NX8 Taxi be licensed as a hackney carriage.

157 LICENSING OF VOLKSWAGON EUROCAB

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted to consider whether the Volkswagen Eurocab should be licensed as a hackney carriage.

Arising from the consideration given to this matter, it was

RESOLVED

That the Volkswagen Eurocab be licensed as a hackney carriage.

158 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That 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 Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as indicated below; and in all the 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>
Renewal of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr AM	1
Review of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences - Mr Z	1
Renewal of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr IS	1
Grant of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr SK	1

159 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 a Mr AM, for the renewal of his private hire driver's licence.

Mr AM 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 AM for a period of three months with effect from 11th January 2006.

160 REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES - MR Z

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 Z in the light of information as set out in Appendix 1, attached to the report submitted.

Mr Z 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, Mr Z be issued with a strong written warning.

161 RENEWAL OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES - MR IS

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

Mr IS was in attendance at the meeting, together with his representative, and responded to questions asked regarding the conviction as outlined in paragraph 3 of the report, and medical results as stated in Appendix 4 attached to the report submitted.

RESOLVED

That approval be given to the renewal of the private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences issued to Mr IS for a period of six months with effect from 12th February 2006 and that Mr IS submit a further medical report upon application to renew his licence.

162 GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES - MR SK

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

Mr SK was in attendance at the meeting, together with his representative, and responded to questions asked about the complaint received as outlined in paragraph 42 of the report submitted.

Arising from the consideration given to this matter, it was

RESOLVED

That the grant of private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences to Mr SK be refused, in light of the incident as outlined in paragraph 42 of the report submitted, and that the Committee consider that he is not a fit and proper person to be licensed to drive private hire and hackney carriage vehicles.

163 DISABILITY TRAINING PACKAGE

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted updating the Committee on the Disability Training Programme for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers.

Following a lengthy and detailed discussion, the Committee

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.

1. That the Licensing Officer be requested to contact the providers of the two alternative training courses for hackney carriage and private hire drivers, as outlined in the report submitted, for further details and 'vet' the courses once further details had been obtained.

2. That, if suitable the alternative courses; as outlined in the report submitted at present only supplement the training provided by the Licensing Section.
3. That the Committee continue to support the Disability Training Programme for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers provided by the Licensing Section.

The meeting ended at 8.00 pm

CHAIRMAN