

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Taxis Committee
Thursday 13th January, 2022 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room 2 at the Council House, Dudley**

Present:

Councillor A Hopwood (Chair)
Councillor K Lewis (Vice-Chair)
Councillors M Aston, I Bevan, R Body, B Challenor, D Harley and E Lawrence

Officers:

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

48. **Apology for absence**

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

49. **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.

50. **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 9th December, 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed.

51. **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.

52. **Review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr AM**

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

Mr AM was not in attendance at the meeting.

The Committee noted the letter submitted by Mr AM's Solicitor, and were mindful that the allegations continued to be investigated by West Midlands Police and that no charges or conviction had been brought against Mr AM at this stage. Therefore, following advice from the Solicitor and to ensure the Committee had all the relevant information available to them to conduct a fair hearing, the Committee determined that the application be deferred to a future meeting of the Committee following further investigation by West Midlands Police.

Resolved

That consideration of the application for the review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence issued to Mr AM, be deferred to a future meeting following further investigation by West Midlands Police.

53. **Review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MA**

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

The Committee noted that Mr MA was unable to attend the meeting due to Covid-19 isolation restrictions and therefore agreed that the application be deferred to a future meeting of the Committee to enable Mr MA to attend.

Resolved

That consideration of the application for the review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence issued to Mr MA, be deferred to a future meeting to provide Mr MA the opportunity to attend.

54. **Review of a Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence – Mr NA**

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



Mr NA was in attendance at the meeting.

The Team Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement) presented the report in detail and in doing so stated that prior to the Committee, Mr NA had advised that he had reported the offence to the Licensing Team, though had failed to produce the requested evidence.

In response, Mr NA confirmed that he had reported the offence endorsed on his Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) mandate to the Licensing Team within the necessary timeframe, in pursuant with condition 2 of his hackney carriage driver's licence and condition 12 of his private hire driver's licence and the Committee were provided with evidence to that effect.

Resolved

That following consideration of the information contained in the report and presented at the meeting, the Committee determined that no further action be taken.

The meeting ended at 6.20 pm.

CHAIR

