TAXIS COMMITTEE

Monday 8th January, 2007, at 6.00 pm in Committee Room 4 at the Council House, Dudley

PRESENT:-

Councillor Mrs Ameson (Chairman) Councillors Mrs Collins, Cotterill, Mrs Faulkner, Hill, Male, Ryder, Tomkinson, and A Turner

Officers

Assistant Director (Legal and Democratic Services), Mrs J Elliott (Licensing Officer), Mr T Holder (Solicitor) and Mrs K Farrington (Directorate of Law and Property)

119 <u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>

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

120 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 6th December, 2006, be approved as a correct record and signed.

121 <u>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC</u>

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.

Description of Item	Relevant Paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
Grant of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers' Licences – Mr MA	1
Grant of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr SA	1
Review of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MA	1
Review of Private Hire Driver's Licence – Mr MG	1
Grant of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr SR	1
Grant of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Licences – Mr KL	1
Grant of Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence – Mr AH	1

122 GRANT OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR MA

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

Mr MA was in attendance at the meeting, together with his Solicitor and a supporter, and responded to questions asked by the Committee regarding the complaint received against him, as summarised in the report submitted.

After a lengthy and detailed discussion it was

RESOLVED

That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted and the representations made at the meeting, the application for the grant of hackney carriage and private hire drivers' licences made on behalf of Mr MA be refused on the grounds that the circumstances of this matter in relation to the three breaches of conditions of licence, admitted by Mr MA, are so serious that the Committee believe he is not a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

123 <u>CHANGE IN ORDER OF BUSINESS</u>

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 13(c) it was

RESOLVED

That the remaining items of business be considered in the following order, namely:-

Agenda item numbers 10, 11, 12, 7, 8 and 9.

124 GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR SR

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

Mr SR was in attendance at the meeting, together with a supporter, and responded to questions asked by the Committee regarding the offences for which he had been convicted, as indicated in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the report submitted.

RESOLVED

That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, and as given at the meeting, the application for the grant of private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences made on behalf of Mr SR be refused, in view of his criminal record and failure to disclose his convictions as indicated in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the report submitted, but that should he wish to do so he be invited to submit a further application in twelve months time.

125 GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS' LICENCES – MR KL

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

Mr KL was in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked by the Committee regarding the offence for which he had been convicted, as indicated in paragraph 7 of the report submitted.

RESOLVED

That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, and as given at the meeting, approval be given to the grant of private hire and hackney carriage drivers' licences to Mr KL for a period of three months from the date of this meeting.

126 GRANT OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR AH

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

Mr AH was in attendance at the meeting and responded to questions asked by the Committee regarding the offences for which he had been convicted, as indicated in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the report submitted.

RESOLVED

That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, and as given at the meeting, the application for the grant of a hackney carriage driver's licence made on behalf of Mr AH be refused, in view of the convictions outlined in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the report submitted, but that should he wish to do so he be invited to submit a further application in six months time.

127 GRANT OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR SA

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

Mr SA was not in attendance at the meeting and as he had not attended on a previous occasion, the Committee agreed to proceed in his absence.

RESOLVED

That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, the application for the grant of a private hire driver's licence made on behalf of Mr SA be refused, in view of the convictions outlined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report submitted.

128 REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR MA

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on a review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr MA, in the light of the offence for which he had received a fixed penalty, as indicated in paragraph 9 of the report submitted.

Mr MA was not in attendance at the meeting and the Committee agreed to proceed in his absence.

RESOLVED

That further consideration of the review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr MA be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

129 <u>REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR MG</u>

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted on a review of the private hire driver's licence issued to Mr MG, in the light of the breach of conditions of his private hire driver's licence, as indicated in paragraph 7 of the report submitted.

Mr MG was not in attendance at the meeting and the Committee agreed to proceed in his absence.

RESOLVED

That, following careful consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, Mr MG's private hire driver's licence be suspended for a period of two months with effect from the date of this meeting and that should the Disability Awareness Course be successfully completed within that period the suspension be lifted immediately.

The meeting ended at 8.05pm.

CHAIRMAN