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ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

15 MARCH 2017

Present: Councillors Dowling (Chair), Sinden (Vice-Chair), Rogers and Cooke

20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Absence was noted for Councillor Webb.

21. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2016

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2016 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

23. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ADDITIONAL URGENT ITEMS

None.

24. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED - that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the item of business listed below because it is likely that, if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of 'exempt' information as defined in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972

<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Paragraph No.</u>
25(E)	'Fit and Proper' test for Licenced Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence	Paragraph 4

25(E) 'FIT AND PROPER' TEST FOR LICENSED HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER

The Corporate Director, Environmental Services, submitted a report regarding an application for a Carriage / Private Hire Drivers Licence.

The purpose of the report was to determine if the applicant was a 'Fit and Proper' person to continue to hold a Hackney Carriage / Private Hire Drivers Licence.

The driver was in attendance together with his father who worked for the same taxi company and both made a submission in his defence.

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The complainant had chosen not to attend the meeting. The Licensing Manager read out a written statement on her behalf.

With the agreement of the Chair, a DVD showing CCTV footage from the complainant's car camera and also that of the driver's safety camera were played detailing the incident.

Councillor Rogers proposed a motion to suspend the licence, which was seconded by Councillor Cooke.

RESOLVED (unanimously) that the applicant is not a 'Fit and Proper' person to continue to hold a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicle Driver's Licence until he has undertaken professional training that includes but is not limited to, dealing with anger management and how not to drive in an aggressive manner. The licence is suspended for a period of up to 8 weeks for this to be carried out and an assessment document showing that this training has been carried out is given to the satisfaction of the Council's Licensing Manager. This gives the opportunity for the training to be consolidated if possible and the suspension to be less than 8 weeks.

Reasons: The driver acted in an unprofessional and extremely aggressive manner. By his own admission he stated that he was late for a job. He also said that he had personal issues and on reflection he should not have worked that day. Nevertheless he did, causing him to drive aggressively and make another driver feel threatened. Public Safety is of paramount importance to the Committee. Other drivers, pedestrians or passengers could have been hurt or subject to this abusive language. At times he had both hands off the wheel. On this occasion the driver had lost his self-control.

The Committee noted that the drivers first licence was issued on 12th January 2017 and he was caught speeding on the 17th January 2017. This incident occurred on the 10th February 2017. The Committee hope that the driver takes full advantage of the training he is to undertake.

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at. 6.55 pm)