

WIRRAL COUNCIL

LICENSING, HEALTH AND SAFETY AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
LICENSING PANEL – 19 NOVEMBER 2009

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION

PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE - APPLICATION

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider an application received from Stephen Roy Locke for the grant of a Private Hire Driver Licence.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 It is a requirement that all convictions and cautions must be declared when applying for a Private Hire Driver Licence. When applying for a Private Hire Driver Licence Mr Locke declared that he had the conviction shown in paragraph 2.2 below. On return of the Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau no further convictions were revealed.

2.2 SP30 – Exceeding the speed limit

Offence date: 23 October 2007
Sentence: Fixed penalty fine
3 penalty points

2.3 Mr Locke has previously held a private hire driver licence from February 1994 until March 2009 when he failed to renew it.

2.4 Mr Locke had been working as private hire driver without a licence, and valid insurance, between March 2009 and August 2009 and a prosecution file has been submitted to the Legal Department.

2.5 Until Mr Locke was found to be working without a licence he was working for Argyle Park Taxis in Birkenhead.

2.6 Mr Locke had been undertaking contract work for the Children and Young People's Department transporting children to school. He did not have a Private Hire Operator Licence which is required to undertake this type of work, however he has subsequently applied for the licence.

3.0 FINANCIAL & STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no financial or staffing implications arising out of this report.

4.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no equal opportunities implications arising out of this report.

5.0 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Article 6 concerning the right to a fair hearing is of relevance.

6.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no Local Agenda 21 implications arising out of this report.

7.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

7.1 This report affects the entire Borough.

8.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are Community Safety implications as private hire drivers should be fit and proper persons when granted a licence and throughout its duration due to their involvement with the general public.

9.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no planning implications arising out of this report.

10.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 The application form applying for the grant of a Private Hire Driver Licence.

11.0 RECOMMENDATION

11.1 That the Panel consider whether to grant a Private Hire Driver Licence to Mr Locke.

Alan Stennard
Director of Regeneration

This report was prepared by Margaret Calvert who can be contacted on 0151 691 8476.