

LICENSING PANEL

Friday, 20 June 2014

Present: Councillor WJ Davies (Chair)

Councillors A E R Jones
S Niblock
J Salter

Deputies: Councillors D Elderton (for A Hodson)
D Mitchell (for P Williams)
S Williams (for M Hornby)

1 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Panel were asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non pecuniary interests in connection with any application on the agenda and state the nature of the interest.

Councillors A Jones and J Salter both declared a non pecuniary interest in item 3 (minute 107) by virtue of being acquainted with the applicant.

2 PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE - PEUGEOT EXPERT - APPLICATION TO LICENSE TWO FRONT SEAT PASSENGERS

The Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment reported on an application received to license a Peugeot Expert, registration number SF09 AYZ as a private hire vehicle to carry seven passengers, two passengers being carried in the front.

Members were informed that previous applications to license a Volkswagen Caravelle, a Volkswagen Transporter, a Ford Tourneo and a Renault Trafic to carry two front seat passengers had been granted by the Licensing, Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee and that Members of the Licensing Panel had granted an application to license a Vauxhall Vivaro to carry to front seat passengers. Members had also previously considered applications to license a Mercedes Vito to carry two front seat passengers which had been refused.

The applicant attended the meeting with his vehicle which members of the Panel inspected.

Members considered the representations made but took the view that there was not sufficient space for two adult passengers to sit comfortably in the front of the vehicle.

Resolved –

(1) That the application to license a Peugeot Expert, registration number SF09 AYZ to carry seven passengers, two passengers being carried in the front, be refused.

(2) That the vehicle be licensed to carry six passengers, one passenger being carried in the front.

3 **OVERAGE VEHICLE - VAUXHALL ASTRA, REGISTRATION NUMBER DE52 HNK**

Councillors A Jones and J Salter declared a non pecuniary interest in this matter and left the room during its consideration (minute 105 refers).

The Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment reported on an application received to re-licence a Vauxhall Astra, registration number DE52 HNK, beyond the normal over-age date for a licensed private hire vehicle. The vehicle had been licensed as a private hire vehicle since 11 November 2002 and had passed the compliance test necessary for a licence to be issued.

The owner of the vehicle was present at the meeting with his vehicle which members of the Panel inspected.

Members considered the representations made and decided to act outside of their Policy on this occasion due to the condition of the vehicle.

Resolved – That the application to re-licence the Vauxhall Astra, registration number DE52 HNK be granted for a further six months.

4 **OVERAGE VEHICLE - FORD FOCUS C-MAX, REGISTRATION NUMBER ST04 UWV**

The Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment reported on an application received to re-licence a Ford Focus C-Max, registration number ST04 UWV, beyond the normal over-age date for a licensed private hire vehicle. The vehicle had been licensed as a private hire vehicle since 18 June 2013 and had passed the compliance test necessary for a licence to be issued.

The owner of the vehicle was present at the meeting with his vehicle which members of the Panel inspected.

Members considered the representations made and decided to act outside of their Policy on this occasion due to the condition of the vehicle.

Resolved – That the application to re-licence the Ford Focus C-Max, registration number ST04 UWV be granted for a further six months.

5 **EXEMPT INFORMATION - EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved - That, under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to that Act. The Public Interest Test had been applied and favoured exclusion.

6 **PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE - APPLICATION (KTG)**

The Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment reported upon an application received by Mr KTG for the grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence. Mr KTG attended the meeting and made representations in respect of his application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence.

Members gave due consideration to Mr KTG's representations.

Members had due regard to their Policy, however, after careful consideration of the representations made, exercised their right to consider each case on its own merits.

Members were mindful of paragraph 12 of their Policy, however on this occasion were persuaded to act outside of their Policy in determining this application.

Resolved – (5:2) That Mr KTG's application for the grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence be approved.

7 **PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE - APPLICATION (PEM)**

The Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment reported upon an application received by Mr PEM for the grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence. Mr PEM attended the meeting and made representations in respect of his application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence.

Members gave due consideration to Mr PEM's representations.

Members had due regard to their Policy, however, after careful consideration of the representations made, exercised their right to consider each case on its own merits and on this occasion were persuaded to act outside of their Policy in determining this application.

Resolved – That Mr PEM's application for the grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence be approved.