

REGULATORY PANEL

Friday, 16 April 2021

Present: Councillor A Hodson (Chair)

Councillors G Davies
D Mitchell
S Williams

Apologies Councillor AER Jones

31 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.

Councillor A Hodson declared a personal interest in Item 7 (minute 37 refers) by virtue of having attended the same youth club as the applicant.

32 PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE APPLICATION - CITROEN XSARA PICASSO, REGISTRATION NUMBER LG10 LUP

The Director of Law and Governance reported upon an application received to re-license a Citroen Xsara Picasso, registration number LG10 LUP, beyond the normal overage date for a licensed Private Hire Vehicle. The vehicle had been licensed as a Private Hire Vehicle since 7 December 2018 and the licence expired on 24 March 2021. The date of first registration of the vehicle was 24 March 2010. On expiry of previous licences on 24 March 2020 and 24 September 2020 applications to grant a six month licence had been granted under delegated authority. The vehicle had been examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations and the pass certificate was available for Members together with photographs of the vehicle.

The proprietor of the vehicle attended the meeting by way of video conference and Members of the Panel confirmed they had inspected photographs of the vehicle.

Resolved – That the application to license the Citroen Xsara Picasso, registration number LG10 LUP, as a Private Hire Vehicle be granted for six months.

33 PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE APPLICATION - RENAULT SCENIC, REGISTRATION NUMBER NA60 PMO

The Director of Law and Governance reported upon an application received to re-license a Renault Scenic, registration number NA60 PMO, beyond the normal overage date for a licensed Private Hire Vehicle. The vehicle had been licensed as a Private Hire Vehicle since 2 July 2019 and the current licence expired on 13 December 2020. The date of first registration of the vehicle was 13 December 2010. The vehicle had been examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations and the pass certificate was available for Members together with photographs of the vehicle.

The proprietor of the vehicle attended the meeting by way of video conference and Members of the Panel confirmed they had inspected photographs of the vehicle.

Resolved – That the application to license the Renault Scenic, registration number NA60 PMO, as a Private Hire Vehicle be granted for six months.

34 **APPLICATION TO LICENSE THE TOYOTA C-HR HYBRID AS A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE**

The Director of Law and Governance reported upon an application received to license the Toyota C-HR Hybrid as a Private Hire Vehicle.

In September 2017 Members of the Licensing, Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee approved criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles. The criteria were set out within Appendix 1 attached to the report.

Members of the Regulatory Panel were asked to consider whether they were satisfied that the Toyota C-HR Hybrid complied with the Council's criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles and whether it was a suitable vehicle to be licensed.

Members of the Panel had inspected photographs of the vehicle and confirmed they had seen a video of the vehicle.

Resolved – That the Toyota C-HR Hybrid be considered as a suitable vehicle to be licensed as a Private Hire Vehicle.

35 **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.

36 **PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE (SRH)**

The Director of Law and Governance submitted a report for Members to consider an application received from Mr SRH for the grant of a Private Hire Driver Licence.

Mr SRH attended the meeting by way of video conference however due to poor internet connection Members were unable to proceed to determine the matter.

Resolved – That Mr SRH’s application for a Private Hire Driver Licence be deferred to a future date.

37 **PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE (CBD)**

Councillor A Hodson declared a personal interest in this matter (minute 31 refers).

The Director of Law and Governance submitted a report for Members to consider whether Mr CBD should continue to hold a Private Hire Driver Licence.

Mr CBD attended the meeting by way of video conference and made representations. Members questioned Mr CBD and considered other evidence provided.

Members considered carefully the representations made by Mr CBD.

In determining the matter Members also gave serious consideration to their overriding responsibility in respect of the protection and safety of the public. The Panel applied the principle of proportionality enshrined within the Human Rights Act 1998 and considered that in seeking to ensure the legitimate aim of the protection and safety of the public, a revocation of the licence with immediate effect was justified in the circumstances.

Resolved – That, in the interests of public safety, Mr CBD’s Private Hire Driver Licence be revoked with immediate effect.