

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the LICENSING AND PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE held in Meeting Room 0.1A, Ground Floor Meeting Room, Pathfinder House, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Tuesday, 28 June 2016.

PRESENT: Councillor R Fuller – Chairman.
Councillors Mrs B E Boddington,
Mrs S Conboy and R J West.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing and Protection Applications Sub-Group held on 26 April 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2. MEMBERS INTERESTS

No declarations were received.

3. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

that the press and public be excluded from the meeting because the business to be transacted contains exempt information relating to individuals and is subject to an obligation of confidentiality.

4. LICENSING AND PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE PROCEDURE

The Licensing and Protection Sub-Committee's Procedure was received and noted.

5. CONVICTIONS GUIDANCE

The Council's Guidelines relating to the relevance and treatment of convictions was noted.

6. NEW APPLICATION FOR A HACKNEY AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENCE

With the assistance of a report by the Head of Community (a copy of which is appended in the annex to the Minute Book), the Sub-Committee considered an application from Mr AK who did not meet the Council's published criteria to hold such a licence owing to his previous convictions. The applicant had previously had a licence application refused by Peterborough City Council and had also failed to declare a number of Fixed Penalty Notices which had been issued between 2000 and 2011.

A copy of the results of the applicants DBS check and his driving licence were provided to Members of the Sub-Committee, together

with a number of character references and additional correspondence submitted on the Applicant's behalf. The options which were available to the Sub-Committee were (i) to allow the application to proceed or (ii) refuse the application.

The applicant was then given the opportunity to address the Sub-Committee and present his case for the application being permitted to proceed. Following, a number of questions from Sub-Committee Members, Mr KA left the meeting.

Following careful consideration of the application, the information within the committee report, the submissions made by the applicant and the references provided on his behalf, the Sub-Committee also took into account the Council's guidelines relating to the relevance and treatment of convictions and the legislative provisions. Whereupon and whilst the Sub-Committee had no reason to doubt the applicant's explanation of the circumstances surrounding his conviction in 2010, it was

RESOLVED

that the application be refused on the grounds that the applicant is not a 'fit and proper' person owing to the serious and relevant nature of the offence for which he was convicted in 2010. A conviction of this nature undermines the public's confidence in their use of licensed vehicles.

In reaching their decision, Members were of the opinion that the spent traffic offences that had not been declared within the application were minor in nature and therefore not relevant to the Sub-Committee's decision on this occasion.

The Applicant was advised of his right of appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days.

Chairman