

**NOTES OF GENERAL LICENSING REGULATORY BOARD PANEL**

**15th October, 2013**

1. **Present:** Councillors C Wraith (Chairman), S Green and Worton together with Councillor Dures (Reserve Member).

Members of the Public and Press were excluded from the meeting

2. **Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest from Members in respect of items on the agenda.

3. **Driver Licences**

The Panel considered reports requesting Members to consider the following:

- (a) an application for the grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence on behalf of Mr A B.

The applicant was in attendance and was supported by Mr J (relative and Proprietor of a local taxi firm) who addressed the Panel in support of his case.

After considering all the evidence presented together with the representations made, the application for the grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence was granted due to the exceptional and mitigating circumstances submitted. The applicant was also informed that any further offences committed or any failure to comply with licensing conditions would result in him being required to appear before a meeting of the General Licensing Regulatory Board where his licence would be reviewed.

The decision of the Panel was unanimous.

- (b) an application for the grant of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licences on behalf of Mr A T.

The applicant was in attendance and addressed the Panel in support of his case.

After considering all the evidence presented, together with the representations made, the application for the grant of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licences was granted due to the exceptional and mitigating circumstances submitted.

The decision of the Panel was unanimous.

(c) application for the grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence on behalf of Mr S P H.

The applicant was in attendance and addressed the Panel in support of his case.

After considering all the evidence presented together with the representations made, the application for the grant of a Private Hire Driver's Licence was refused on the grounds that he was not considered to be a fit and proper person to hold such a licence as there were no exceptional circumstances to warrant a deviation from the Council's Guideline Policy for Criminal Convictions on the following grounds:

- the number, type and nature of the convictions recorded against the applicant
- the fact that the applicant appeared to have trivialised the seriousness of the offences committed and the penalties imposed

The decision of the Panel was not unanimous.

(d) the determination of the Private Hire Driver's Licence renewal application on behalf of Mr J B.

The Driver was in attendance and addressed the Panel in support of his case.

After considering all the evidence presented, together with the representations made, the application for the renewal of the Private Hire Driver's Licence be refused on the grounds that the driver is no longer deemed to be a fit and proper person to hold such a licence as there are no exceptional circumstances to warrant a deviation from the Council's Guideline Policy for Criminal Convictions on the following grounds:

- the failure to report to the Licensing Service, at the time of the original offence, and at the time of submitting the taxi renewal application, an impending prosecution for the Cultivation of Cannabis - a Class B Controlled Drug
- the conviction and receipt of a custodial sentence for the above offence
- the submission of a reference from a local taxi firm that was outdated and which had been submitted without the permission or knowledge of the proprietor of that company

The decision of the Panel was unanimous.

Chairman.....