

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Licensing Casework Sub- Committee on Monday 4 December 2023

www.oxford.gov.uk



Committee members present:

Councillor Clarkson (Chair)

Councillor Hunt

Councillor Miles

Officers present for all or part of the meeting:

Alison Daly, Legal Adviser

Emma Thompson, Senior Licensing Compliance Officer

Katie Thorp, Senior Licensing Compliance Officer

Celeste Reyeslao, Committee and Member Services Officer

Apologies:

None.

50. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

51. Procedure to be followed at the meeting

The Sub-Committee noted the procedure for the hearings and the policy on the relevance of warnings, offences, cautions and convictions.

52. Minutes

The Sub-Committee resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2023 as a true and accurate record.

53. Exempt Matters and Confidential Session

The Sub-Committee resolved that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining items of business on the grounds that their presence would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

The Sub-Committee considered matters relating to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle licensing in private.

54. Application to drive Private Hire Vehicles

The Executive Director for Communities and People had submitted a report to inform the determination of an application to drive Private Hire Vehicles in the City.

The Sub-Committee resolved to:

- **Refuse** the application to drive Private Hire Vehicles in the City taking into account the details set out in the report and the representations made at this Sub-Committee meeting.

55. New application to drive Private Hire Vehicles

The Executive Director for Communities and People had submitted a report to inform the determination of an application to drive Private Hire Vehicles in the City.

The Sub-Committee resolved to:

- **Grant** the application to drive Private Hire Vehicles in the City, on the condition that any minor or major incidents within the first year of his licence he would be required to appear before the Sub-Committee to determine his suitability to continue to hold a licence.

56. Any other business

Councillor Miles raised an item for consideration regarding the tests required for licence applicants and whether the assessments included material that highlight Road Safety in line with Vision Zero principles. Councillor Miles supported the inclusion of these principles in the current testing of applicants and licence holders which would mean focusing on their ability to share the road responsibly with other users such as cyclists, pedestrians and those utilising other sustainable commuting methods.

The Sub-Committee agreed to inform the Chair of the General Purposes Licensing Committee about Road Safety in line with Vision Zero Principles and resolved to recommend to the full Committee that a review and subsequent update of the tests be undertaken by Licencing Officers, with an aim to incorporate elements that specifically address road safety and other nuances of sharing the road, in accordance with the principles of Vision Zero.

57. Confidential Minutes

The Sub-Committee resolved to approve the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 16 October 2023 as a true and accurate record.

58. Dates of future meetings

The dates of future meetings were noted.

The meeting started at 6.10 pm and ended at 7.40 pm

Chair

Date: Monday 18 December 2023

When decisions take effect:

Cabinet: after the call-in and review period has expired

Planning Committees: after the call-in and review period has expired and the formal decision notice is issued

All other committees: immediately.

Details are in the Council's Constitution.