

# Minutes of Licensing Sub Committee 1

**Monday 4 April 2022 at 10.15am  
in the Council Chamber, Sandwell Council House, Oldbury**

**Present:** Councillor Allen (Chair);  
Councillors R Jones and Webb.

**Officers:** Usha Devi (Senior Licensing Officer);  
David Elliott (Solicitor);  
Trisha Newton (Senior Democratic Services Officer);  
Connor Robinson (Democratic Services Officer).

## 1/22 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chidley and Z Hussain.

## 2/22 **Declarations of Interest**

No interests were declared at the meeting.

## 3/22 **Exclusion of the Public**

**Resolved** that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to information) (Variation) Order, 2006, relating to any individual and information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.



## **New application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence in respect of Mr Q K**

Members considered the application for a Private Hire Driver's Licence in respect of Mr Q K.

Mr Q K was in attendance, supported by a taxi operator, and had previously appeared before the Licensing Sub Committee on three occasions. On 22 July 2019 (minute no. 42/19) Mr Q Z's application was refused, on 13 January 2020 (minute no. 4/20) consideration of the matter was adjourned, and on 9 March 2020 (minute no. 10/20) where the application was refused.

The Sub Committee was advised that Mr Q K had been referred due to Mr Q K having had his licence revoked by Dudley MBC due to inappropriate behaviour, and being refused on two occasions by the Sub Committee for failing to declare his revocation from Dudley MBC, and applying with 12 months of his application being refused.

Mr Q K had declared on his new application that he had had a licence revoked by Dudley MBC and a licence refused by Sandwell MBC on two occasions. Mr Q K had subsequently passed all suitability tests and all relevant courses which were required in order to obtain a private hire driver's licence. Mr Q K had no criminal convictions.

Mr Q K informed the Sub Committee that since he had been working for local food delivery companies which involved engagement with the public and had not had any issues.

Mr Q K presented to the Sub Committee a number of character references from elected members and taxi operators to demonstrate his good character.

Mr Q K recognised he had made a mistake in his prior behaviour and emphasised his commitment and respect to the community.

The Sub Committee took advice from its Legal Advisor before adjourning to make a decision on the application.



The Sub Committee was minded to grant the Private Hire Driver's Licence. The incident had occurred three years ago and since that time there had been no recorded issue. Mr Q K had obtained a number of character references from elected members and operators demonstrating his good character and behaviour. Mr Q K had attended all the necessary training courses and had expressed to the Sub Committee that he had learned from his mistake.

**Resolved** that the Private Hire Driver's Licence in respect of Mr Q K be approved.

5/22

### **Application for a Review Private Hire Driver's Licence in respect of S K**

Members considered an application for the review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence in respect of Mr S K.

Mr S K was in attendance, accompanied by his son, and had not previously appeared before the Licensing Sub Committee.

The Sub Committee was advised that Mr S K had been referred due to a failure to report an arrest which involved another licensed driver.

The Sub Committee took advice from its Legal Advisor as the matter had not yet been to court.

It was determined that the Sub Committee would defer the case until the allegation had fully gone through the court process.

**Resolved** that consideration of the application for the review of a Private Hire Driver's Licence in respect of Mr S K be deferred until the allegation had been determined by the courts.



## Application for a Renewal of a Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence in respect of R M

Members considered an application for the renewal of a Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence in respect of Mr R M.

It became apparent to the Sub Committee that Mr R M was struggling to communicate and was not able to fully explain the situation.

The Sub Committee took advice from its Legal Advisor and it was agreed that consideration of the matter be deferred until Mr R M could arrange for an interpreter or someone to support him.

**Resolved** that consideration of the renewal of a Dual Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence in respect of Mr R M be deferred to a future meeting.

Meeting ended at 1.38pm

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