

## South Cambridgeshire District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Appeals Sub-Committee held on  
Tuesday, 16 August 2022 at 11.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Mark Howell – Chair

Councillors: Dr. Shrobona Bhattacharya Peter Sandford

Officers: Paul Weller Legal Adviser  
Brooke O'Neil Licensing Technical Officer

### 1. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mark Howell, Chair of the Sub-Committee, declared an interest in being a registered blue badge holder but declared that he came to the matter afresh.

### 2. Exclusion of Press and Public

The press and public were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Act).

### 3. Introductions / Procedure

### 4. Refusal of a Private Hire Driver licence.

The Sub-Committee decided on the balance of probabilities it was reasonable **not to grant** a private hire driver licence to the appellant.

In making its decision the sub-committee considered the following:

- Statutory provisions: S51,61 & 77 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions Act) 1976
- Statutory taxi and private hire vehicle standards issued by the Department of Transport in July 2020
- South Cambridgeshire District Council Private Hire and Taxi Policy
- Report of the Licensing Officer
- Advice from the Council's legal adviser
- Evidence as referred to above.

The sub-committee made its decision for the following reasons:

- The Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy 2020 states a licence will not be granted until at least 7 years have elapsed since the completion of any sentence imposed. The sub-committee were concerned as the offence was only 2 years previously. Nothing had been demonstrated by the applicant to encourage the sub-committee to depart from policy.
- It was believed by the sub-committee that the appellant used a blue badge issued to someone else knowing he was not entitled to do so. The sub-committee took the view, the requirements for the use of the blue badge were in the public domain.
- The sub-committee believed the applicant knowingly committed an act of dishonesty.
- It was taken into consideration by the sub-committee the applicant had taken responsibility for the offence, but it was thought he was not a fit and proper person to hold a private hire driver licence because of this act of dishonesty.

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**The Meeting ended at 12.20 p.m.**

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

# Minute Item 4

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