

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Appeals Sub-Committee held on
Wednesday, 19 October 2022 at 8.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Mark Howell – Chair

Councillors: Peter Sandford Dr Lisa Redrup

Officers: John Goodwin Regulatory Support Officer
Keira Mbye Democratic Services Officer

1. **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Mark Howell declared being a member of the panel in a previous hearing with the Appellant in 2018.

2. **Exclusion of Press and Public**

3. **Introductions / Procedure**

4. **Fit and proper status to hold a Private Hire Driver licence**

The Sub-Committee decided on the balance of probabilities it was reasonable to **revoke** the private hire driver licence.

The Sub-Committee made its decision for the following reasons:

- The legislation states:
The Equality Act 2010 was recently updated by the Taxi and Private Hire Vehicles (disabled Persons) Act 2022. Section 170 of the Equality Act 2010 covers Assistance dogs in private hire vehicles. Section 170(3)&(4) states;
(3)The driver of a private hire vehicle commits an offence by failing or refusing to carry out a booking accepted by the operator—
(a) if the booking is made by or on behalf of a disabled person or a person who wishes to be accompanied by a disabled person, and
(b) the reason for the failure or refusal is that the disabled person is accompanied by an assistance dog.
- The Sub-Committee found that the Appellant accepted the booking despite the office detailing that the journey involved an assistance dog.
- Therefore, the Sub-Committee found that the Appellant did not comply with their obligations under this legislation and for that reason the Sub-Committee took the view that they were not a fit and proper person to hold a private hire driver licence.

The Meeting ended at 10.00 a.m.
