

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Appeals Sub-Committee held on
Thursday, 7 March 2024 at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Peter Sandford – Chair

Councillors: Sunita Hansraj Dr Lisa Redrup

Officers: John Goodwin Licensing Enforcement Officer
Aaron Clarke Democratic Services Technical Officer
Elizabeth Lanlehin Locum Litigation Lawyer

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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

The Chair introduced panel members and officers and explained the procedure for the hearing.

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

The sub-committee heard representations from the appellant and Licensing Officer, based on the written report.

The Sub-Committee panel decided on the balance of probabilities to **Grant** the Private Hire Driver Licence for **one year** on the condition that the driver took an appropriate advanced driving course in liaison with the Licensing department.

Reasons:

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 appellant had not declared previous convictions on more than one application.
- The panel accepted however, that it needed to be made clear to applicants that they would need to email the Licensing department with any additional convictions. It was commented that this was not an intuitive process.
- The appellant had not received any convictions or driving offences since January 2019.
- Due to an example of previous dangerous driving, the appellant would be asked to take an appropriate advanced driving course to demonstrate his improved skill, care on the road and reapply after one year.
- The appellant had not provided any evidence of steps taken to address previous incidents.

The Meeting ended at 12.15 p.m.
