

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Appeals Sub-Committee held on
Tuesday, 1 March 2022 at 11.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Eileen Wilson – Chair

Councillors: Dr. Shrobona Bhattacharya Deborah Roberts

Officers: Aaron Clarke Democratic Services Officer
Brooke O'Neil Licensing Technical Officer
Paul Weller Legal Adviser

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

4. Appeal against the refusal of a Private Hire Driver licence

The sub-committee heard representations from the licence holder and Licensing Officer.

The Sub-Committee decided on the balance of probabilities to **approve** the renewal of a private hire licence to the appellant, with the condition that he completes a driving skills assessment prior to the new licence being issued.

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 shown genuine remorse for the mistakes that he had made and an understanding of his obligations as a professional driver.
- However, the Sub-Committee were concerned that three speeding offences occurred within a very short period of time and took the view that to minimise the future occurrences a driving skills assessment course needed to be completed.
- The Sub-Committee considered, that on the balance of probabilities, that having completed such a course, the appellant would be a fit and proper person.