

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Appeals Sub-Committee held on
Wednesday, 23 November 2022 at 9.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Mark Howell – Chair

Councillors: Jose Hales Dr Lisa Redrup

Officers: John Goodwin Licensing Enforcement Officer
Jonathan Malton Cabinet Support Officer
Paul Weller Legal Advisor
Hayley Cousins Business Support Officer (Observer)

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. Fit and proper status to hold 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 grant the Private Hire Driver Licence with the condition that it be granted for a period of 12 months.

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 Sub-Committee were concerned the reported incidents showed a pattern of behaviour, if substantiated, would be unacceptable for a private hire driver.
- The Appellant was involved in an altercation in August 2019 with a cyclist, where a professional driver should have driven away, and not escalated the situation.
- Because of the reasons detailed in this decision notice, the Sub-Committee determined to grant the license for a period of 12 months only.

The Meeting ended at 12.35 p.m.
