

**LICENSING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - TAXI AND  
PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING PANEL**

23 March 2021

Minutes of the Licensing and General Purposes Committee - Taxi and Private Hire  
Licensing Panel meeting held remotely on Tuesday 23 March 2021 at 10:00am.

Committee Members present: Councillors S.J. Coleman, C.A. Madeley and  
H.L. Timpe.

Other Members present: Councillors A.S. Mier

Advisory Officers in attendance: Deputy Legal Services Manager - Wealden and  
Rother Shared Legal Services, Licensing Assistant and Democratic Services  
Officer.

Also present: Dual Licensed Driver Applicant.

---

TLP20/5      **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Councillor S. Coleman was duly appointed as Chairman of the Panel  
for this hearing.

TLP20/6      **MINUTES**

The Chairman was authorised to sign the Minutes of the last Taxi and  
Private Hire Licensing Panel held on 10 December 2020, at a later  
date, as a correct record of the proceedings.

TLP20/7      **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (EXEMPT INFORMATION)**

**RESOLVED:** That the press and public be excluded whilst the matter  
containing exempt information, as prescribed by Part 1 of Schedule  
12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended and relating to  
Minute TLP20/08 was under consideration. The report submitted in  
connection with this item that contained information exempt from  
publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act shall remain  
confidential if and so long as, in all the circumstances of the cases, the  
public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public  
interest in disclosing the information.

TLP20/8      **DUAL DRIVER'S LICENCE - CONSIDERATION OF GRANT  
(PARAGRAPHS 1, 3 AND 7)**

The Chairman welcomed and introduced all present to the meeting and  
advised on the remit of the Licensing Panel in determining the matter  
as detailed in the confidential report of the Head of Service  
Environmental Services, Licensing and Community Safety.

The Panel had to determine whether the driver was a fit and proper person before being granted with a Dual Drivers' Licence as a result of having his driver's licence revoked for a period of six months from 30 August 2019 until 28 February 2020.

The confidential report gave details of driver's licence revocation, for the offence of accumulating 12 or more penalty points within a three year period. The expiry date for this endorsement was 22 July 2022. The driver had previously held a Dual Driver's Licence from 1 December 2016 until November 2019 with Hastings Borough Council and had reapplied to Hastings Borough Council on 2 March 2020. The application was put before the Council's Environmental and Safety Committee. The licence was not granted.

The Panel heard from the Environmental Health Licensing Assistant, who provided further details of the driver's application. The Panel then heard from the driver who apologised for his behaviour and explained that he had learnt his lesson over the past 19 months, had not received any further endorsements since receiving his licence back and had carried out research to improve his driving knowledge.

The Panel asked a series of questions in relation to the measures the driver had taken since the revocation of his licence.

The Panel retired to consider the case in private. The Panel took into account all the written evidence provided to them and the verbal statements made by the Environmental Health Licensing Assistant and the driver. The Council's legal representative advised the Panel on the matters that should be taken into account in determining this case.

The Panel gave careful deliberation to the evidence provided in regard to the licence application. The Panel decided that the driver was not a 'fit and proper person' to hold a licence. The Panel took the decision that the behaviour was not that expected of a licensed driver and the application was refused.

**RESOLVED:** That the licence for the Dual Driver application be refused.

(This matter was considered exempt from publication by virtue of Paragraphs 1, 3 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended).

**CHAIRMAN**

The meeting closed at 10:46am.