

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
TAXI AND OTHER LICENSING COMMITTEE
HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, NELSON
ON 2ND FEBRUARY, 2017**

PRESENT -

Councillor D. Clegg (Chairman – in the chair)

Councillors

*M. Arshad
N. Butterworth
J. Cooney
M. Foxley
M. Iqbal
K. Shore
C. Wakeford*

Officers in attendance

<i>Jackie Allen</i>	<i>Taxi Licensing Manager</i>
<i>Howard Culshaw</i>	<i>Head of Legal Services</i>
<i>Sarah Waterworth</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>

◆◆◆◆

The following person attended the meeting and spoke on the item indicated:

Mr Akram	Results of Spot Checks	Minute No. 38
Shaffa Ahmed		
Mr Saeed		
Tariq Hussain		

Mr Akram	Penalty Points	Minute No. 39
----------	----------------	---------------

◆◆◆◆

36. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the requirements of the Member Code of Conduct concerning the Declaration of Interests.

37. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

(1) Mr A. Ahmed suggested having a rating scheme set by Pendle Council similar to that for food outlets. This would let the public know which were the good Private Hire vehicles and would motivate them to maintain their standards.

It was felt that due to the recent problems with operators the public had nothing good to say about good taxi operators in Pendle.

Mr Ahmed suggested that the council looked at past spot checks and encourage the public to use safe operators, this having a knock on effect on the rogue traders.

The Taxi Licensing manager informed Mr Ahmed that this was something that was being discussed with trade representatives at the Taxi Working Group.

(2) Mr Akram complained about the height of the speed bumps on some of the road in Pendle and that they were damaging the vehicles.

The Chairman explained that Pendle Council was not responsible for highways, in this area it was Lancashire County Council (LCC) and if Mr Akram provided a list of which roads were the issue to it could be referred to LCC.

(3) Mr Khan complained about the length of time it was taking for his DBS check to be returned as he applied for it in September 2016.

Councillor J. Cooney said that if Mr Khan contacted him, he would look into the matter further.

(4) Mr Khan asked who's decision it was to get UK's vehicles tested at Rigg Street Motors when they can only do class 4 vehicles.

(5) Mr Khan asked why the Enforcement Officers attend school spot checks carried out by the County Council

The Taxi Licensing Manager said a response would be sent direct to Mr Khan

(6) Mr Hussain asked why Pendle Council could not have 3 year CRB checks like LCC do as it was causing the trade problems as CRB's were not turning up.

The Taxi Licensing Manager explained that the Council's policy had changed which required an initial DBS check to be carried out, following which, the licence holder was required to apply to the update service so an annual check can be made. Therefore, there was no need for a new DBS every 3 years as long as the subscription to the update service was renewed on an annual basis..

38. RESULTS OF SPOT CHECKS

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager reported that a joint spot check on licensed vehicles had been carried out on Monday 9th January, 2017 at Rigg Street Motors, with the Police and Vehicle Operator Services Agency (VOSA). 22 vehicles were tested with 12 taken off the road for mechanical faults.

39. PENALTY POINTS SCHEME

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted. For information a report regarding details of the penalty points which had been imposed since the last meeting.

40. RESULTS OF APPEALS/ PROSECUTIONS

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report, for information, regarding decisions and pending appeals/ prosecutions since the last meeting.

**41. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE) TRAINING
AND SUSPENSION OF LICENSES**

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report which informed members of the outcome of the training and recommended that those who had not undertaken the training have their licence suspended until they complete it.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the position regarding training be noted.
- (2) That drivers who have not undergone training have their licences suspended until they complete it.
- (3) That a press release be issued congratulating the drivers who have taken part in the training.

REASON

In order to ensure that all taxi drivers are suitably trained and are fit and proper people to hold a taxi driver/operator's license.

42. TAXI WORKING GROUP

Minutes of the meeting of the Taxi Working Group held on 17th January, 2017 were submitted for information.

43. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED

That in pursuance of the power contained in Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the next item of business on the grounds that if a member of the public and press were present during consideration of the item, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person.

44. INTERVIEWS

(1) Report of IA, Norfolk Street Garage

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of IA.

RESOLVED

That a letter be sent to IA regarding the conditions of the garage contract and that they should be adhered to.

(2) Report of RZ

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of RZ.

RESOVLED

That RZ private hire and hackney carriage driver's licence remain suspended until the expiry date.

(3) Report of MSK, Operator of Crown/ Greenline, Colne

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of MSK

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Taxi Licensing Manager be requested to continue to monitor MSK and he be requested to attend the next meeting of this committee where any failures will be taken into account

(4) Report of MI

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of MI

RESOLVED

That the application for a private hire drivers licence be granted for a temporary 6 month period – should no further issues arise the licence will be renewed for a further 6 months.

(5) Report of MS, Operator of Superline & Barrowford Private Hire

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of MS.

RESOLVED

That MS's private hire operator's licence be revoked.

(6) Report of ZI, MF & AN, T/A Street/ Pennine/ Transport/ Ace Cars & 1st Choice, Nelson

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of ZI, MF & AN.

RESOLVED

That six penalty points be added to their operator's licence.

(7) Report of ZA, A-Line, Ziggys, Sky, Gemms and Road Runner Local Private Hire

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of ZA.

RESOLVED

- (1) That all of their vehicles be tested at a garage specified by the Council.

- (2) That the Planning, Building Control and Licensing Manager be granted delegated authority to revoke the Operator's Licence if any of the vehicles fail that test.
- (3) That the operator be required to attend the next meeting of this committee for interview.

(8) Report of MS & US, Metro Cars

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of MS & US.

RESOVLED

That no further action be taken.

(9) Report of AA, VIP

The Planning, Building Control and Licensing Services Manager submitted a report in respect of AA.

RESOLVED

- (1) That all of their vehicles be tested at a garage specified by the Council.
- (2) That the Planning, Building Control and Licensing Manager be granted delegated authority to revoke the Operator's Licence if any of the vehicles fail that test.
- (3) That the operator be required to attend the next meeting of this committee for interview.

Chairman: _____