

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
TAXI LICENSING COMMITTEE
HELD AT NELSON TOWN HALL
ON 26TH JUNE, 2023**

PRESENT –

*His Worship the Mayor Councillor Brian Newman
Councillor F. Ahmad – (Chair)*

Councillors

*N. Ashraf
N. Butterworth
K. McGladdery
K. Salter
M. Strickland*

Officers present

<i>Jackie Allen</i>	<i>Taxi Licensing Manager</i>
<i>Emma Barker</i>	<i>Legal Services Manager</i>
<i>Lynne Rowland</i>	<i>Committee Administrator</i>



1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED

That Councillor B. Newman be appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee for the municipal year 2023/24.

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Oakes asked if there were any dates planned for taxi trade meetings; requested an update on any action taken regarding the installation of CCTV cameras in vehicles; asked if the Task and Finish Group meeting to look at improvements to vehicle safety had been held yet; and requested an update on the outcome of the Unmet Demand Survey.

Mr Oakes was advised that there were no taxi trade meetings planned at present. It was felt that there was little interest from the trade, with only two trade members in attendance at the last meeting.

The matter regarding the installation of CCTV cameras in vehicles was ongoing. A requirement that all vehicles must be fitted with CCTV cameras was included in the Taxi Licensing Policy however, in line with the decision of the Policy and Resources Committee, it was not being

implemented at this time in view of the potential cost involved and the need to search for potential funding.

A meeting of the Task and Finish Group to look at improvements to vehicle safety was being organised for July.

A draft report on the outcome of the Unmet Demand Survey would be available in a couple of weeks.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March, 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. 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 items of business on the grounds that if a member of the public and press were present during consideration of the items, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person/persons.

6. INTERVIEWS

(a) Report on AKKB

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report in respect of AKKB. AKKB attended for interview.

The report provided details of a complaint received, which included a statement from the complainant. The complainant was in attendance at the meeting.

RESOLVED

That AKKB's hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence be revoked with immediate effect.

(b) Report on JA

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report in respect of JA. JA attended for interview with one representative.

RESOLVED

That JA's application for the grant of a hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence be approved, subject to the inclusion of 6 penalty points on the licence.

(c) Report on AA

The Assistant Director, Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services submitted a report in respect of AA. AA attended for interview with one representative.

The Committee considered a request from AA that the Hearing be adjourned to allow for their solicitor to be present. It was decided that the Hearing proceed as representations from their solicitor were included as part of the report.

The report provided details of a complaint received, which included a statement from the complainant, who was in attendance at the meeting and representations from AA's solicitor made on his behalf. The Council's Taxi Enforcement Officer had also made a statement and was in attendance.

RESOLVED

- (1) That AA's private hire driver's licence be revoked.
- (2) That no further action be taken regarding AA's Private Hire Operator's Licence.

CHAIRMAN _____