

PUBLIC PROTECTION SUB COMMITTEE

2 MARCH 2021

Present: Councillor Mackie(Chairperson)
Councillors Lancaster and Wood

1 : EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

The following item is confidential and exempt from publication as it contains exempt information of the description contained in paragraph 14 of Part 4 and paragraph 21 of Part 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. The public may be excluded from the meeting by resolution of the Committee pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 during discussion of this item.

2 : HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE MATTERS

RESOLVED – That the following matters be dealt with as indicated:

(1) Case 1

The Sub Committee were advised that in November 2020 a driver was convicted in Magistrates Court for plying for hire without a licence and for not having valid insurance. The driver had carried out a journey that was not pre-booked. He had transported officers of the Shared Regulatory Service as part of a planned operation. The vehicle was not insured for the journey.

The driver's representative advised Members that the driver had been operating as a hackney carriage driver for 10 years and there were no previous complaints regarding his conduct. The driver accepted that he has made a serious mistake and pleaded guilty in Court. The driver was given an opportunity to explain the events on the night in question. In mitigation, Members were advised that the driver usually hired a hackney carriage vehicle. However, the owner of that vehicle sold the car and replaced it with a similar saloon-type vehicle that was only licenced as a private hire vehicle. The driver stated that he had forgotten that the new vehicle was only licenced for private hire. The driver's representative considered that these were exceptional circumstances and therefore a warning about his future conduct may be warranted.

RESOLVED – That the hackney carriage/private hire driver licence be revoked for driving offences.

The meeting terminated at 11.00 am