

PUBLIC PROTECTION SUB COMMITTEE

7 MAY 2019

Present: Councillor Mackie(Chairperson)
Councillors Dilwar Ali and Jacobsen

17 : EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

The following item is confidential and exempt from publication as it contains exempt information of the description contained in paragraph 12 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 the item.

RESOLVED – That the public be excluded.

18 : HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE MATTERS

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

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

(1) Hearing 1

The Sub Committee considered a complaint received from a member of the public that a hackney carriage driver refused a fare and drove off in an unsafe manner. The witness stated that she opened the nearside sliding door of the taxi, and on doing so was asked where she was going. On explaining that she wanted to go to Ely the driver stated that he was not going there and started to drive off with the witness's foot still inside the vehicle. The witness was able to provide the badge number.

The driver stated that he knew nothing of the incident, he had dropped a fare at the Marriot Hotel at 11.36 and produced records to confirm that information. He then drove another fare to Penarth.

RESOLVED – That the driver receive a 10 day suspension for refusing a fare.

(2) Hearing 2

Members were advised that a complaint was received from a member of the public that a driver had used a mobile phone whilst driving with a passenger. The complainant alleges that he had booked a taxi to take him and a friend home from a 12 hour shift and that whilst he was sat in the back of the vehicle he could see a mobile phone in a vent mounted holder displaying a video and that the driver was watching the video. It was not a sat nav device, or being used as a sat nav and the audio was not in English. The

complainant denied being drunk having just finished a 12 hour shift working with vulnerable adults.

The driver stated that he had used the sat nav on the phone, but as he turned it on a game that his children play on his phone started to play as it is an app that runs in the background. The driver maintained that the complainant did not see a video playing, there was no other language used and the complainant was intoxicated, smelling strongly of alcohol was unable to carry his bags – the driver put the bags into the vehicle.

RESOLVED – That the driver receive a 7 day suspension for using a mobile phone whilst driving with a passenger.

(3) Hearing 3

Members were advised that a complaint was received from a member of the public that a driver had refused a fare. The complainant did not attend the hearing.

RESOLVED: That no further action be taken.

APPLICATIONS

(4) Application 1

RESOLVED – That the application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire drivers licence be granted.

(5) Application 2

RESOLVED – That the application for a Hackney Carriage/Private Hire drivers licence be granted.

The meeting terminated at 1.15 pm