

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of a **MEETING** of the **REGULATORY SUB COMMITTEE** held on 1 August 2023 at 10.30 am

Present Councillors

J Cairney, A Cuddy and L G J Kennedy

Present Officers:

Deborah Sharpley (Legal Services Solicitor), Harriet Said (Team Leader (Commercial), Public Health), Alan Drake (Specialist Lead (Licensing)), Philip White (Specialist Licensing Assistant) and Angie Howell (Member Services Officer)

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Election of Chairman

Cllr J Cairney was duly elected as Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

3 Access to Information - Exclusion of Press and Public

Prior to consideration of a report from the Licensing Consultant to consider whether or not a license holder was fit and proper to hold a licence (or Licenses) with Mid Devon District Council the Sub-Committee discussed whether or not the hearing should be held in public or private. Members considered the circumstances of the case and agreed that the hearing should be conducted in closed session. The following resolution was therefore passed:

ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT – EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the next item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information relating to an individual.

4 **Hearing to determine if a person is fit and proper to hold a Hackney Carriage and Private hire Licence**

Members of the Sub-Committee and officers introduced themselves.

Cllr A Cuddy advised that he had professional knowledge of the licence holder but did not know them personally.

The Specialist Lead (Licensing) outlined the contents of the report, explaining the responsibility of the Local Authority. He explained the key aims and objectives of the hearing, being the protection of public health and safety and the prevention of crime and disorder (as per the Mid Devon District Council policy). He highlighted that the priority is always the safety of the public.

The Members of the Sub-Committee then listened to the licence holder's presentation of their case. The Members asked questions of the licence holder and gave them an opportunity to add anything further before they withdrew.

The Sub-Committee then withdrew to deliberate the case.

The Sub-Committee **RESOLVED** to:

Suspend the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licence for a period of 6 months on condition that the licence holder undertook, at their own expense, a taxi driving test at the end of the suspension period.

(The meeting ended at 12.21pm)

CHAIRMAN