

Regulatory Sub-Committee

Minutes of a Meeting of the Regulatory Sub-Committee held in Committee Room No.2, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford on the **18th July 2023 at 09.30am.**

Present:

Cllr. L Suddards (Chair);

Cllrs. McGeever, Walder.

Also Present:

Cllr. Hallett (Reserve)

Environmental Protection & Licensing Team Leader, Licensing Officer, Principal Solicitor, Senior Member Services Officer (virtually).

Applicant.

77 Election of Chair

Resolved:

That Councillor L Suddards be elected as Chair for this Meeting of the Regulatory Sub-Committee.

78 Minutes

Resolved:

That the Minutes of the Meetings of this Sub-Committee held on 18th April 2023 and 25th April 2023 be approved and confirmed as a correct record.

79 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, as it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure of exempt information hereinafter specified by reference to paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

80 Determination of a Private Hire Drivers Licence.

The Councillors and Officers present were introduced. The Chair welcomed all present and explained the procedure to be followed. The Sub-Committee Members confirmed that they had received and read the agenda papers.

The Licensing Officer had submitted a report which outlined the case. He went through the case, the history of the Licences held by the Driver and the making of the application. Should the Sub-Committee grant the licence, this would be for a dual licence, Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers Licences. He drew attention to the relevant parts of Guidance and Ashford Borough Council's Taxi Licensing Policy and outlined the options available to the Sub-Committee.

The Applicant then put his case to the Committee.

The Sub-Committee then asked questions of the Licensing Officer and the Applicant.

The Sub-Committee then retired to make its decision.

On the Sub-Committee's return, the Chair read out the 'Decision and Reasonings Statement' that had been prepared by the Regulatory Sub-Committee. A copy of this was given to the Applicant and would also be sent to all present, along with the Minutes and decision letter.

That the Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Drivers Licenses be granted subject to the following conditions;

- 1. That the Applicant reread the Councils Taxi Licensing Policy and confirm to the Councils Licensing Officer in writing that this had been read and understood prior to the issue of the Licence.**
- 2. That the Applicant undertakes and completes the Disability Awareness Virtual Classroom Course by Blue Lamp Trust (or equivalent course), prior to the issue of the Licence, at his expense and provides a copy of the course completion certificate to the Councils Licensing Officer.**
- 3. Should there be any complaints or allegations of discrimination in any form, received by Ashford Borough Council during the period of the licence (namely three years) then this is automatically to be referred to be dealt with by a Regulatory Sub-Committee and not dealt with at officer level.**