

## **LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE**

Wednesday 24 September 2025

### **Present:**

Councillors Snow and Williams, R

### **Also Present:**

Legal Advisor, Apprentice Solicitor, Democratic Services Officer and Licensing Officer

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### **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

Councillor Snow was appointed as Chair for this meeting.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made by Members.

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976**

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### **APPLICATION TO RENEW HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE OVER 8 YEARS OLD**

The Chair introduced the Sub-Committee and the Legal Advisor set out the procedure for the hearing advising of the Council's policy and the requirement under Section 47 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. The Licensing Officer presented the report for the application to renew a licence in relation to a Hackney Carriage Toyota Prius, which was over 10 years old. The vehicle was first registered on 26 September 2024. The Applicant submitted a current MOT dated 08 August 2025 which recorded a mileage of 271,097. CCTV and Meter checks and photographs of the vehicle were also submitted by the Applicant. The vehicle was inspected by a council officer and was found to be in reasonable condition for the age. The vehicle has been licensed with Exeter City Council since 14 September 2017.

The Applicant spoke in support of the application making the following comments:

- the car was a hybrid and met all the criteria set out by Exeter City Council;
- he kept the vehicle in good reasonable condition; and
- the carbon emissions were less than Exeter City Council guidance.

In response to questions from Members and the Legal Advisor, the Applicant made the following comments:

- as long as the car was safe to use he would carry on using it;
- the car was serviced every ten thousand miles;
- the car was checked every week by him and received an MOT every 6 months;
- he might consider getting another car in a couple of years;
- the engine oil, tires, and lights were checked every week;
- if he application was approved he would be happy to continue with MOTs every 6 months; and
- he would be happy to share the report from his services.

**RESOLVED** that the application for the renewal of a licence relating to a Hackney

Carriage over 10 years old be approved for 12 months, subject to a condition that the vehicle will have an MOT every six months and evidence from vehicle services been provided to the Council's Licensing Department.

33      **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 EXCLUSION  
OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that, under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part I, Schedule 12A of the Act.

**TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847**

34      **HEARING TO DETERMINE WHETHER AN APPLICANT FOR A HACKNEY  
CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE IS A FIT AND PROPER  
PERSON TO HOLD A THE LICENCE**

The Chair introduced the Licensing Sub-Committee Members and Officers. The driver had been referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee to determine if he was a fit and proper person to hold a licence to drive a Hackney Carriage/ Private Hire Vehicle.

The Legal Advisor set out the procedure for the hearing and the provisions of Section 61 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

The Legal Advisor stated that the evidential burden was on the Applicant to prove on the balance of probabilities he was a fit and proper person to hold a taxi drivers licence. Every case before the Licensing Sub-Committee was heard of its individual merits and its paramount concern was the safety of the travelling public.

The Licensing Officer presented the report and gave evidence in respect of the application.

The Applicant spoke in support of their application and answered questions from Members and the Legal Advisor.

**RESOLVED** that the application be refused.

(The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and closed at 4.00 pm)

Chair