



Licensing committee

Date: **Wednesday, 21 March 2018**
Time: **13:30**
Venue: **Mancroft room, City Hall, St Peters Street, Norwich, NR2 1NH**

Pre-meeting briefing for members of the committee only for 30 minutes before the start of the meeting

Committee members:

For further information please contact:

Councillors:

Button (chair)
Woollard (vice-chair)
Ackroyd
Bradford
Brociek-Coulton
Jones (B)
Jones (T)
Malik
Maxwell
Price
Raby
Thomas (Va)
Thomas (Vi)

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Agenda

1 Apologies

To receive apologies for absence

2 Public questions/petitions

To receive questions / petitions from the public

Please note that all questions must be received by the committee officer detailed on the front of the agenda by **10am on Friday 16 March 2018**

Petitions must be received must be received by the committee officer detailed on the front of the agenda by **10am on Tuesday 20 March 2018**

For guidance on submitting public questions or petitions please see appendix 1 of the council's constitution.

3 Declarations of interest

(Please note that it is the responsibility of individual members to declare an interest prior to the item if they arrive late for the meeting)

4 Minutes

5 - 6

To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2017

5 Update from the chair of the licensing committee (verbal update)

To update members on the following items:

- Updating of the Gambling Policy;
- Completion of the Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy;
- Future briefing by Public Health on the effects of drinking super strength alcohol; and
- Taxi driver training

6 Licence and registration fees

7 - 12

Purpose - To consider the level of fees payable for those licences administered by the council's licensing section.

7 Regulatory subcommittee minutes

13 - 18

To receive the minutes of the regulatory sub committees held on 11 December 2017 and 19 February 2018

Exempt items:

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and the public.)

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act.

In each case, members are asked to decide whether, in all circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption (and discussing the matter in private) outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Date of publication: **Tuesday, 13 March 2018**



Licensing committee

16:30 to 17:25

30 November 2017

Present: Councillors Woollard (vice chair in the chair), Bradford, Brociek-Coulton, Jones (B), Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, Price, Raby, Thomas (Va), Thomas (Vi) and Wright (sub for Councillor Ackroyd).

Apologies: Councillors Ackroyd and Button (chair).

1. Public questions/ petitions

There were no public questions or petitions received.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

Subject to amending Councillor Price's declaration of interest to declare that his interest extended to all the premises on Prince of Wales Road and that Councillor Raby abstained from the vote on the application for B52, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2017.

4. Hackney Carriage Fare Review

(Representatives from Norwich Station Taxi Association (NSTA) attended the meeting for this item).

The environmental protection, licensing and markets manager presented the report. He highlighted an amendment to the report, paragraph three, page 76 in which the sentence 'The application also seeks to reduce the periods of waiting time for the 20p unit charge' was removed.

He highlighted paragraph 14 which referred to figures for calculating the rate. The figure of 11.29% was high because the calculation was made using costings for London taxis. London taxis were electric hybrid vehicles which were expensive and

therefore increased the costs. The calculation of future increases may use a different formula to take account of this.

In response to a member's question the representative from NSTA said that the 3.6% increase they were requesting represented 0.9% per year over four years as it had been four years since the last increase. The request had been made as programming for current taxi meters expired on the 2 January 2018.

It was noted that if granted, the new rate would leave Norwich taxis costing more than those in neighbouring districts, taking account of figures provided in appendix F to the report. The representatives from NSTA highlighted that Norwich City Council's licensing required operators to have cars which were wheelchair accessible at a cost of approximately £30,000. Neighbouring districts required saloon cars which cost approximately £10,000.

In response to members concerns regarding increasing prices for taxis at a time of financial difficulty for many the representatives stated the increase represented a small increase in short journeys which constituted the majority of their business.

During discussion, the environmental protection, licensing and markets manager confirmed the figures provided in the report were inaccurate. It was agreed the figures to be considered would be those provided by the representatives from NSTA.

RESOLVED to agree to the increase in fares as proposed by the Norwich Station Taxi Association provided in appendix A to the report.

5. Standing item – Regulatory subcommittee minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the regulatory subcommittee meetings held on 18 September 2017.

CHAIR

Report to Licensing committee
21 March 2018
Report of Head of citywide services
Subject Licence and registration fees

Item

6

Purpose

To consider the level of fees payable for those licences administered by the council's licensing section.

Recommendation

To:-

- (1) Approve the fees detailed in the column headed 'total recommended licence fee 2018-19 of Appendix A to the report; and
- (2) Agree the charging policy detailed in paragraphs 10 and 11 of the report.

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priority of a safe and clean city and the service plan priority of protecting the interests of the public through the administration of the licensing function.

Financial implications

Advertising costs to be met from existing budget.

Ward/s: All wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Maguire – Safe city environment

Contact officers

Michael Stephenson, Public protection manager 01603 212283

Tony Shearman, Environmental protection, licensing and markets manager 01603 212278

Background documents

None

Report

1. This report invites members to consider increasing the fees payable for those licences currently administered by the head of citywide services and detailed in appendix A to the report. The fees in respect of the licences shown in appendix A were last reviewed at the meeting of Licensing Committee on 9 March 2017.
2. Members will note that the charges fall under three headings: discretionary fees (the level of fee is at the discretion of the licensing authority subject to the principles outlined in paragraph 3 below), discretionary fees with statutory maxima (as discretionary fees but with an upper limit) and fixed fees (set by statute and cannot be increased).

European Court of Justice ruling – Hemming v Westminster case

3. The European Court of Justice (ECJ) ruling in the Hemming v. Westminster case in respect of licensing fees for sex establishments, relates to the correct interpretation of the 2006 EU Services Directive, which is applied in the UK by the Provision of Services Regulations 2009. The Directive does not apply to taxis or gambling activities.
4. In April 2015, the Supreme Court ruled in favour of Westminster City Council in a long running dispute relating to the licence fees charged to a group of sex establishments in Westminster. The Supreme Court overturned an earlier Court of Appeal ruling by concluding that the Services Directive 2006 does not prevent licensing authorities from charging fees that are proportionate to the cost of administering and enforcing the relevant licensing framework, to those who receive licences.
5. However, the Supreme Court sought an opinion from the ECJ regarding how such fees should be levied. It identified two different approaches to charging fees:
 - Whereby a council charged a fee upon application (covering the costs of authorisation procedures) and a subsequent fee to successful applicants (covering the cost of administering and enforcing the framework) - the 'type A' approach, or
 - Where a council charged a single fee on application covering all costs, on the basis that the relevant proportion of the fee would be refunded to unsuccessful applicants – the 'type B' approach.
6. The Supreme Court found the type A approach of charging two fees is permissible under the Services Directive but considered that the type B approach of charging a single fee was more problematic.
7. The ECJ ruled that the type B approach of fee setting is not compatible with the Services Directive, arguing that the Directive '*precludes the requirement for the payment of a fee, at the time of submitting an application for the grant or renewal of a authorisation, part of which corresponds to the costs relating to the management and enforcement of the authorisation scheme concerned, even if that part is refundable if that application is refused.*'

8. It is important to note that the ruling of the ECJ applies solely to the issue that was referred to it, that is whether a type B approach to fee setting is compatible with the Services Directive. Licensing Authority application fees should relate solely to the cost of authorisation procedures, i.e. the costs associated with reviewing and application and granting or refusing a licence. Under the type A approach, on which the Supreme Court ruling still holds, successful licence applicants should subsequently be charged an additional fee relating to the costs of administering and enforcing the relevant licensing framework. It is worth noting on this point that the Supreme Court view – which again still holds – was that there is nothing to stop licensing authorities making the payment of such a fee a condition of holding a licence. This would mean that authorities could withhold a licence until payment of the relevant fee had been received.

Levels of fees / charging policy

9. The Supreme Court has given a further judgment on 19 July 2017, which is a sequel to the previous judgment of April 2015, made with the benefit of the Court of Justice's answer to the questions concerning fees which were referred to the Court of Justice. In summary the court states as is mentioned in the paragraphs above that European law permits a fee to cover the costs of running and enforcing the licensing scheme becoming due upon the grant of a licence.
10. It is proposed that the 'type A' approach to charging (which the Supreme Court found permissible) be applied to those types of licence detailed in sections (ii) - environmental services licences and (iii) - other non-fixed licences under the 'Discretionary Fees' heading of appendix A.
11. In effect this will mean that applicants for these types of licences will need to submit the fee detailed in column four of appendix A with their application and when the council are in a position to issue the licence, the applicant will then need to pay the fee detailed in column five. If the applicant failed to pay the second part of the fee then the licence would be withheld.
12. This charging policy would not apply to section (i) – hackney carriage and private hire or to the licence types under the Gambling Act 2005 heading of appendix A, as the Services Directive does not apply in respect of taxi licensing or gambling. The Licensing Act 2003 fees would also be unaffected as these are statutorily set and cannot be amended.
13. When determining the levels of fees charged for the licensing function there are three main areas for consideration:
 - licensing authorities are entitled, where legislation allows, to recover the cost of administering a licensing scheme, provided that allowance is made for exemptions or reductions;
 - where certain licences are exempt from a fee, the cost of administering these licences cannot be 'transferred' to other licence fee payers; and
 - licensing authorities are not empowered to raise revenue through their licensing function but they may include costs within licence fees relating to enforcement action against un-licensed activities.

14. The points outlined in paragraph 13 above are taken into account when determining the base estimates for the current financial year. In calculating the projected income for each type of licence it is necessary to estimate the number of licences that may be issued over the course of the year.

Implementation

15. The increases can be brought into effect from April 2018. However, members should be aware that a statutory advertising procedure applies in respect of an increase in the fees payable for hackney carriage vehicle licences, private hire vehicle and private hire operators' licences. If objections are received in respect of these particular fees, then members will have to give further consideration to those increases.

NORWICH CITY COUNCIL LICENSING CHARGES 2017/18 TO 2018/19

	Licence Fee 2017/18 £	Estimated No. of Licences Issued in 2017/18	Estimated Income 2017/18 £	Recommended Charge (based on 3% incre 2018/19 £	Estimated No. of Licences Issued in 2018/19	Estimated Income 2018/19 £
DISCRETIONARY FEES						
(i) Hackney Carriage & Private Hire						
HC Drivers - Grant	363	6	2,178	374	2	748
PH Drivers Grant	260	95	24,700	268	80	21,440
HC Drivers - Renewal	134	0	0	139	150	20,850
PH Drivers Renewal	114	0	0	118	200	23,600
Hackney Carriage Vehicle	149	242	36,058	154	200	30,800
Private Hire Vehicle	129	510	65,790	133	500	66,500
Private Hire Operator Renewal	859	0	0	885	0	0
Private Hire Operator Grant	898	0	0	925	0	0
Transfer of HC/PH vehicle licence	20	40	800	21	90	1,890
Replacement Vehicle Licence Plate	20	15	300	21	15	315
Sub total			129,826			166,143
(ii) Environmental Services Licences						
Acupuncture - Shop	270	4	1,080	279	3	837
Acupuncture - Employee	30	13	390	31	5	155
Ear Piercing - Shop	270	0	0	279	2	558
Ear Piercing - Employee	30	4	120	31	12	372
Electrolysis - Shop	270	0	0	279	0	0
Electrolysis - Employee	30	1	30	31	0	0
Tattooing - Shop	270	6	1,620	279	10	2,790
Tattooing - Employee	30	18	540	31	40	1,240
Dangerous Wild Animals	270	0	0	279	0	0
Dog Breeding	270	0	0	279	0	0
Animal Boarding Establishments	270	0	0	279	0	0
Pet Shops	270	6	1,620	279	4	1,116
Sub Total			5,400			7,068
(iii) Other Non-fixed Licences						
Sex Establishments	2,583	1	2,583	2,661	5	13,305
Transfer of Sex Establishments licence - No objections received	20	0	0	20	0	0
Transfer of Sex Establishments licence - Objections received						
Committee Hearing			Actual cost of Committee Hearing			
	213	0	0	220	0	0
Scrap Metal Dealers: (collectors licence)	97	0	0	100	5	500
Scrap Metal Dealers: (renew site licence)	213	2	426	220	1	220
Scrap Metal Dealers: (renew collectors licence)	97	14	1,358	100	3	300
Scrap Metal Dealers: (vary - licensee name change)	23	0	0	24	0	0
Scrap Metal Dealers: (vary - change of site)	173	0	0	178	0	0
Scrap Metal Dealers: (vary - change of site manager)	105	0	0	109	0	0
Scrap Metal Dealers: (vary - site to collectors)	24	0	0	25	0	0
Scrap Metal Dealers: (vary - collectors to site)	24	0	0	25	0	0
Tables and Chairs (grant)	607	4	2,428	626	4	2,504
Tables and Chairs (renewal 3 yearly)	375	14	5,246	386	6	2,316
Sub Total			12,041			19,145
Total			147,267			192,356
Gambling Act 2005 Licences (Discretionary fees with statutory maxima)						
Bingo Club						
Transitional (fast track)	300.00	0	0	300	0	0
New Application	3,500.00	0	0	3,500	0	0
Annual Fee	1,000.00	1	1,000	1,000	1	1,000
Transfer	1,200.00	0	0	1,200	0	0
Re-Instatement	1,200.00	0	0	1,200	0	0
Provisional Statement	3,500.00	0	0	3,500	0	0
Provisional Licence Application	1,200.00	0	0	1,200	0	0
Betting Premises						
Transitional (fast track)	300.00	0	0	300	0	0
New Application	3,000.00	1	3,000	3,000	0	0
Annual Fee	600.00	28	16,800	600	28	16,800
Variation	1,500.00	0	0	1,500	0	0
Transfer	1,200.00	0	0	1,200	0	0
Re-Instatement	1,200.00	0	0	1,200	0	0
Provisional Statement	3,000.00	0	0	3,000	0	0
Provisional Licence Application	1,200.00	0	0	1,200	0	0
Tracks						
Transitional (fast track)	300.00	0	0	300	0	0
New Application	2,500.00	0	0	2,500	0	0
Annual Fee	1,000.00	1	1,000	1,000	0	0
Variation	1,250.00	0	0	1,250	0	0
Transfer	950.00	0	0	950	0	0
Re-Instatement	950.00	0	0	950	0	0
Provisional Statement	2,500.00	0	0	2,500	0	0
Provisional Licence Application	950.00	0	0	950	0	0
Family Entertainment Centre						
Transitional (fast track)	300.00	0	0	300	0	0
New Application	2,000.00	0	0	2,000	0	0
Annual Fee	750.00	1	750	750	1	750
Variation	1,000.00	0	0	1,000	0	0
Transfer	950.00	0	0	950	0	0
Re-Instatement	950.00	0	0	950	0	0
Provisional Statement	2,000.00	0	0	2,000	0	0
Provisional Licence Application	950.00	0	0	950	0	0
Adult Gaming Centre						
Transitional (fast track)	300.00	0	0	300	0	0
New Application	2,000.00	0	0	2,000	0	0
Annual Fee	1,000.00	1	1,000	1,000	1	1,000
Variation	1,000.00	0	0	1,000	0	0
Transfer	1,200.00	0	0	1,200	0	0
Re-Instatement	1,200.00	0	0	1,200	0	0
Provisional Statement	2,000.00	0	0	2,000	0	0
Provisional Licence Application	1,200.00	0	0	1,200	0	0
Gambling Act 2005 Permits (Fixed fees)						
Family Entertainment Centre						
Transitional	100.00	0	0	100	0	0
New Application	300.00	0	0	300	0	0
Renewal Fee	300.00	0	0	300	0	0
Prize Gaming						
Transitional	100.00	0	0	100	0	0
New Application	300.00	0	0	300	0	0
Renewal Fee	300.00	0	0	300	0	0
Alcohol Licensed Premises - notification of 2 or less machines						
Application fee	50.00	5	250	50	5	250
Alcohol Licensed Premises - more than 2 machines						
Transitional	100.00	0	0	100	0	0
New Application	150.00	0	0	150	0	0
Annual Fee	50.00	16	800	50	12	600
Club Gaming Permit						
Transitional	100.00	0	0	100	0	0
New Application	200.00	0	0	200	0	0
Renewal Fee	200.00	0	0	200	0	0
Annual fee	50.00	2	100	50	0	0
Club Gaming Machine Permit						
Transitional	100.00	0	0	100	0	0
New Application	200.00	0	0	200	0	0
Renewal Fee	200.00	0	0	200	0	0
Annual fee	50.00	4	200	50	0	0
Small Society Lottery Registration						
Application fee	40.00	4	160	40	10	400
Annual fee	20.00	140	2,800	20	15	300
Sub Total			27,860			21,100
Licensing Act 2003 (Fixed Fees)						
Premises Licence / Club Premises Certificate - Grant						
Band A	100.00	5	500	100	5	500
Band B	190.00	11	2,090	190	12	2,280
Band C	315.00	3	945	315	6	1,890
Band D	450.00	4	1,800	450	0	0
Band E	635.00	1	635	635	3	1,905
Other Licensing Act 2003 fees						
Premises Licence / Club Premises Certificate - Annual Fee						
Band A	70.00	82	5,740	70	82	5,740
Band B	180.00	410	73,800	180	398	71,640
Band C	295.00	95	28,025	295	100	29,500
Band D	320.00	16	5,120	320	25	8,000
Band E	350.00	68	23,800	350	72	25,200
Premises Licence / Club Premises Certificate - Variation						
Band A	100.00	0	0	100	2	200
Band B	190.00	3	570	190	3	570
Band C	315.00	2	630	315	1	315
Band D	450.00	0	0	450	0	0
Band E	635.00	0	0	635	0	0
Personal Licence	37.00	91	3,367	37	90	3,330
Temporary Event Notice	21.00	218	4,578	21	250	5,250
			156,600			166,520



Regulatory Subcommittee

14:00 to 16:30

11 December 2017

Present: Councillors Button (chair), Jones (B), Malik and Raby (substitute for Councillor Price)

Apologies: Councillors Maxwell (other council business) and Price

1. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Exclusion of public

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of items 3 to 5 below on the grounds contained in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

*3. Application for Grant of Private Hire Drivers' Licence – Application ref 17/01518/PHDRIV (Paragraphs 1 and 3)

(The applicant attended the meeting for this item. He confirmed that he had been informed of his right to be legally represented at the meeting but had chosen not to be. He was unable to produce his DVLA licence for inspection by the committee but a file photocopy of the licence was examined at the meeting.)

The licensing officer presented the report. In reply to a question the applicant confirmed that he had not received any further convictions or formal cautions and was not aware of any pending prosecutions since his convictions. He then answered detailed questions about the circumstances of his convictions as set out in Appendix A of the report. The applicant then informed the committee of his personal circumstances, his reasons for applying for a private hire drivers' licence, and the steps he had taken to "turn his life around" in the last three years.

(The applicant and the licensing officer left the meeting at this point).

Following a discussion it was -

RESOLVED, to refuse the grant of a private drivers' licence to the applicant (application ref 17/01518/PHDRIV) for the reasons set out in the statement below:

“The committee has considered carefully your application and what you have said in responses to their questions. There remain concerns with the pattern of your behaviour in the past and the committee feels that at present, the public may be at risk of harm or danger in certain circumstances.

The committee commend you for the efforts you have made to bring some order to your life and encourage you to continue to the point where the committee may review its decision to refuse the application today. We advise you to present evidence of progress if you do re-apply.”

(The applicant and the licensing officer were admitted to the meeting and informed of the decision minuted above. The legal advisor informed the applicant that he would receive written notification of the committee’s decision and that he had the right to appeal against the decision at the Magistrates’ Court within twenty-one days of the date of receipt of the notification. The applicant then left the meeting.)

***4. Suspension/revocation of Norwich City Council Private Hire Drivers’ Licence no 16/01350/HACKD (Paragraphs 1 and 3)**

(The applicant attended the meeting for this item. He was accompanied by the chairman of the Norwich Hackney Trade Association. The appellant produced his DVLA licence for inspection by the committee).

The licensing officer presented the report. In reply to a question the applicant said that he had not received any further convictions or formal cautions and was not aware of any pending prosecutions since his convictions. He then answered detailed questions about the circumstances of his convictions on 13 September 2017 and 30 September 2017 for exceeding the statutory speed limit. The applicant apologised to the committee for his lack of judgement on these two occasions. There were no customers in the vehicle on either occasion. He explained that he did not report the first offence to the council within seven days because he was under the mistaken impression that he had a month to report a conviction to the council. The applicant said that he had been a hackney driver for a several years and this was the first time he had been before the committee. He presented three letters of support from two regular customers and one from his partner, stating that the appellant was caring to people with disabilities.

(The applicant and the licensing officer left the meeting at this point).

Following a discussion it was -

RESOLVED, to take no action.

(The applicant and the licensing officer were admitted to the meeting and informed of the decision minuted above. The chair advised the applicant to familiarise himself with the Green Book and to take care not to exceed the speed limit in future. The applicant then left the meeting.)

***5. Suspension/revocation of Norwich City Council Private Hire Drivers' Licence no 16/01328/PHDRIV (Paragraphs 1 and 3)**

(The applicant attended the meeting for this item. He confirmed that he had been informed of his right to be legally represented at the meeting but had chosen not to be. He produced his DVLA licence for inspection by the committee).

The licensing officer presented the report. In reply to a question the applicant said that he had not received any further convictions or formal cautions and was not aware of any pending prosecutions since his conviction. He then answered detailed questions about the circumstances of conviction on 20 November 2017 for driving without insurance. At the time he had been unaware that the small print of the policy did not cover him for third party insurance because he was under the age of 25.

In reply to further questioning, the applicant explained that he was a university student. He considered that private hire driving would fit in with his studies, if he could arrange the finance for a vehicle and insurance.

(The applicant left the meeting at this point).

Following a discussion it was -

RESOLVED, to take no action.

(The applicant was admitted to the meeting and informed of the decision minuted above. The chair advised the applicant that he should familiarise himself with the Green Book. The applicant then left the meeting).

CHAIR



Regulatory Subcommittee

14:00 to 14:35

19 February 2018

Present: Councillors Button (chair), Ackroyd, Brociek-Coulton and Jones (B).

Apologies: Councillor Bradford

1. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Exclusion of public

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of items *3 and *4 below on the grounds contained in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

The chair took item *3 below first.

***3. Suspension/revocation of Norwich City Council private hire drivers licence No: 1601383PHDRIV (Paragraphs 1 and 3)**

(The applicant attended the meeting for this item. He confirmed that he had been informed of his right to be legally represented at the meeting but had chosen not to be. He was unable to produce his DVLA licence for inspection by the committee but a file photocopy of the licence was examined at the meeting.)

The licensing assistant presented the report. In reply to a question the applicant confirmed that he had not received any further convictions or formal cautions and was not aware of any pending prosecutions since his convictions. He then answered detailed questions about the circumstances of his convictions as set out in Appendix A of the report.

The legal advisor to the committee clarified the matter being considered and confirmed with the licensing assistant that the committee was considering a renewal of a licence and not a suspension/ revocation.

(The applicant and the licensing officer left the meeting at this point).

Following a discussion it was –

RESOLVED unanimously to grant the renewal of the private drivers' licence to the applicant (application ref 1601383PHDRIV).

The applicant and the licensing officer were admitted to the meeting and informed of the decision minuted above.

The applicant was informed that the committee had given due consideration to the matters before them and on balance had decided that he was a fit and proper person to hold a licence. They reminded him to read his green book carefully and report any matters to the licensing department within seven days.

(The applicant left the meeting at this point).

***4. Application for grant of private hire drivers licence – Application ref: 17/01754PHDRIV (Paragraphs 1 and 3)**

(The applicant attended the meeting for this item and was supported by a friend. The applicant produced his DVLA licence for inspection by the committee).

The licensing assistant presented the report. In reply to a question the applicant confirmed that he had not received any further convictions or formal cautions and was not aware of any pending prosecutions since his convictions. He then answered detailed questions about the circumstances of his convictions as set out in Appendix A of the report.

The applicant apologised to the committee for his behaviour and said he was much younger when the offences had been committed and regretted his actions. He informed the committee of his personal circumstances, his reasons for applying for a private hire drivers' licence, and the steps he had taken to "turn his life around" in the last six years.

(The applicant, his friend and the licensing officer left the meeting at this point).

Following a discussion it was -

RESOLVED unanimously to grant the private drivers licence to the applicant (application ref 17/01754PHDRIV).

The applicant and the licensing officer were admitted to the meeting and informed of the decision minuted above. The chair advised the applicant to familiarise himself with the green book carefully and report any matters to the licensing department within seven days.

(The applicant then left the meeting.)

CHAIR