

Appeals Committee – 6 December 2007

Minutes of the meeting of the **Appeals Committee** held on **6 December 2007** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr J E Grey
Vice-Chairman: Cllr Mrs C A Weston

Cllr Mrs H L A Glynn
Cllr T Livings

Cllr R A Oatham
Cllr Mrs B J Wilkins

OFFICERS PRESENT

N Khan	- Solicitor
J Crawford	- Transportation Manager
J Read	- Hackney Carriage Officer
M Keogh	- Enforcement Officer
S Worthington	- Committee Administrator

417 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

418 PROCEDURAL NOTE

The Committee noted the procedure to be followed in hearing the review.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining item of business on the grounds that exempt information as disclosed in paragraph 1 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed.

419 PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE

The Committee considered the exempt report of the Head of Planning and Transportation detailing a breach of the private hire operator's licence in respect of a driver allowing one of his licensed private hire vehicles to be driven by a driver not licensed with this Authority.

The Committee did not accept the applicant's submission that the breaches in question were merely technical; it viewed the driver's failure to comply with the licensing conditions in a serious light. The Committee expected the driver, as an experienced licence holder, to be familiar with all the conditions and to abide by them.

The Committee felt that, in allowing a driver not licensed with the Rochford

District to use his vehicle, the driver had failed in his responsibilities as a fit and proper private hire operator. Taking into account the driver's willingness to admit to the breaches, together with the fact that his sole source of income came from driving a private hire vehicle, the Committee was of the view that the driver's private hire operator's licence should be suspended for a period of six months. The Committee warned the driver that any future breaches could be viewed in an even more serious light.

Resolved

That the private hire operator's licence be suspended for a period of 6 months, to take effect in 21 days from the date of notification. (HPT)

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and closed at 3.55 pm

Chairman

Date

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