

REPORT OF LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE AND THE STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE

GENERAL REPORT

1. This report sets out a brief summary of the main items considered at the meeting of the Licensing and Safety Committee and the Statutory Licensing Committee held on 17 January 2007.

LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE – 17 JANUARY 2007

Complaint regarding Hackney Carriage Driver

2. The Committee received a report of the Director of Customer, Democratic and Legal Services relating to a complaint that had been made against a Hackney Carriage driver.
3. Members were asked to consider the allegations and to determine whether or not, the driver was considered to be a fit or proper person to hold an Hackney Carriage driver's licence.
4. The complainant, along with a friend, who was present when the alleged incident took place, attended the meeting to give their representations of the event.
5. The licensed Hackney Carriage driver, attended the meeting to put forward his explanation, and the Committee carefully considered the representations that he made.
6. We decided to suspend the driver for a period of 28 days and that the suspension only to be lifted once the driver has successfully completed a DSA Hackney Carriage/Private Hire assessment.

Application for Licence to drive Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicles within the Borough of Chorley

7. The Committee received a report of the Director of Customer, Democratic and Legal Services relating to an application for a licence to drive Hackney Carriage/Private Vehicles within the Borough.
8. The report indicated that the applicant had only held a licence since March 2005, which was against our policy that applicants should be over 21 years of age and have three years driving experience as the holder of a full driving licence.
9. Enquiries made had revealed that the applicant had no driving convictions on his driving licence and a Criminal Record Bureau check had revealed that there were no previous convictions.

10. The applicant accompanied by his prospective employer attended the meeting to put forward representations in respect of his application and we decided to grant the Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers Licence.

Allocation of seven additional Hackney Carriage Licences

11. We received a report of the Director of Customer, Democratic and Legal Services asking us to approve a selection procedure for the issue of seven additional Hackney Carriage licences.
12. We agreed the selection procedure and appointed a Sub-Committee of seven Members for the interviewing process.

Licensing and Registration Licences issued from 2 November 2006 to 22 December 2006

13. The Committee received a report of the Director of Customer, Democratic and Legal Services on the various licences and permits issued and the registrations affected by the Licensing Section.
14. The Licensing Enforcement Officer also updated us on the present situation regarding the vehicle check sheets that Chorley Private Hire had been ordered to complete.

STATUTORY LICENSING COMMITTEE – 17 JANUARY 2007

Gambling Act 2005 – Delegation of the setting of fees for licences.

15. We received a report of the Director of Customer, Democratic and Legal Services giving us notification of the proposed delegation of Gambling Act 2005 fees.
16. The fees need to be set by 30 April 2007 and it is on this date that the authority will start to accept Gambling Act applications.
17. We decided to recommend that Council approve, that the setting of the Gambling Act 2005 fees be delegated to the Statutory Licensing Committee.

Licensing Act 2003 – Licenses issued from 2 November 2006 to 22 December 2006

18. The Committee received a report of the Director of Customer, Democratic and Legal Services on the various licences and permits issued and the registrations effected under the Licensing Act 2003.
19. There had been a sharp rise in the issuing of new Temporary Event Notices with alcohol, over the Christmas period. This had been the result of the Licensing Section being proactive and sending out a pre

seasonal letter to make sure that Licences were compliant over the holiday period.

Recommendation

20. The Council is recommended to:

- 1) Give approval to the setting of the Gambling act 2005 fees being delegated to the Statutory Licensing Committee.
- 2) note the report.

COUNCILLOR MRS I SMITH

Chair of the Licensing and Safety Committee and Statutory Licensing Committee.

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There are no background papers to this report.