

REPORT OF LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

GENERAL REPORT

1. This report is a brief summary of the main items considered at a meeting of the Licensing and Safety Committee held on 11 July 2007.

Smoke Free Legislation

2. The Committee received a presentation from the Council's Environmental Health Manager outlining the health aspect, the Council's enforcement position and the offences and penalties under the new smoking legislation that came into force on the 1 July 2007.
3. The Council had employed a Public Health Technical Officer whose job it was to deal with complaints and to give advice and assistance. The officer would not be uniformed, but carry necessary authorities. Where several complaints about premises were received a visit would be made and if no changes occurred then enforcement action would be taken.
4. At present complaints had been received regarding litter and noise nuisance outside licensed premises with approaches made to the licensee regarding these issues, but most establishments are complying with the legislation.

Application for Licence to Drive Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicles

5. Previous meetings of the Committee had adjourned consideration of this application to drive Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicles within the Borough of Chorley as the applicant and his legal representative had failed to attend the meetings.
6. The applicant as well as his legal representative had been invited to attend the meeting but again neither attended.
7. It had been agreed by the Committee at its meeting held on 23 May 2007 that the applicant be informed in writing that another opportunity would be given to him to attend to put forward representations in support of his application and if he did not attend on this occasion the application would be considered in his absence.
8. We were informed that a letter informing the applicant and his legal representative of this course of action had been delivered by hand on 24 May 2007 and a reminder sent on 22 June 2007.
9. Having had no response to these letters we agreed to consider the application in the absence of the applicant.
10. Following careful consideration of the application we agreed that it be refused on the basis that the applicant was not a fit and proper person to hold a private hire/hackney carriage drivers licence and we agreed the grounds for the decision.

Recommendation

11. The Council is recommended to note the report.

COUNCILLOR MRS I SMITH
Chairman of the Licensing and Safety Committee

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There are no background papers to this report.