

## LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE - 26 September 2022

### PRIVATE MINUTES

#### 1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR CONFLICTING INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS

There were no declarations from Members of any pecuniary or conflicts of interest.

#### 3. QUESTIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

No questions or deputations received.

#### 4. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Chairman did move that the press and public be now excluded from the meeting for the remainder of the business to be transacted on the grounds that there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in the Local Government Act 1972.

#### 5. COMPLAINT OF INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR COMMITTED BY PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER MR KHAYAUM ALI (28 JUNE 1983), 17 ST JOSEPHS ROAD, WARD END, BIRMINGHAM, B8 2JX.

Members were reminded that the matter had been due to be heard on 21 June 2022 but due to Mr Ali's non-attendance was deferred until their 15 August meeting. As Mr Ali again failed to attend the matter was heard in his absence and resolved to revoke his Private Hire Driver's Licence (PHDL). Mr Ali had worked for A2B, Bolt and OLA.

Officers contacted Mr Ali following the expiration of the appeal period to advise him of the revocation and he stated he had no knowledge of either meeting or the decision of revocation. He explained he had changed his email address which he had included on his application in September 2021. Examination of his record confirmed his new email address from the application form but his applicant details had not been amended on the system.

Mr Ali was advised that he would need to make a new application which he submitted on 12 September 2022 and although understandably upset at the situation was verbally aggressive towards officers and when asked for his PHDL refused to hand it over stating he still had access to the A2B platform. As a result of the interaction A2B were contacted and they confirmed details of Mr Ali's history with them.

Bolt and OLA also provided their complaints logs held against Mr Ali.

**RESOLVED**

Members confirmed they had read the complaints history of Mr Ali and took into account his verbal and written explanations b Members confirmed they had read the complaints history of Mr Ali and took into account his verbal and written explanations before coming to a split decision to grant him a Private Hire Driver's Licence with the Authority.

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The granting of the PHDL would be delayed until at least 26 October 2022 but in any case not before Mr Ali had agreed and completed an anger management course, at his own expense, to the satisfaction of the Licensing Department. Members were concerned at the number and seriousness of incidents logged against him and requested Officers to bring him back before them in six months' time or sooner should any further complaints be attached to his record. Mr Ali be given a strict warning as to the conduct expected of him.

Councillors Butler and Grinsell wished it be recorded they voted against the decision that Mr Ali was a fit and proper person to hold a PHDL.

**6. APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE FOR MR MOHD HASSAN BOKHARI (15 SEPTEMBER 1994), 39 MOORDOWN AVENUE, SOLIHULL, B92 8QW**

Mr Bokhari failed to attend and had not contacted Officers regarding his attendance or otherwise.

RESOLVED

Members agreed that in the absence of Mr Bokhari to defer the matter until their next meeting.

**7. APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR MOHAMMAD KARIM SEDIQ (29 JULY 1985), 25 PEARSON AVENUE, COVENTRY, CV6 7DA**

The Licensing Officer advised Members that Mr Sediq had declared on his application that he had six penalty points on his DVLA Licence for driving without due care and attention. The points expired on 27 July 2022 but were still relevant under the suitability policy.

Mr Sediq is currently licensed with Wolverhampton City Council until 23 April 2025 and they confirmed there was one recorded complaint from 26 April 2021 of Mr Sediq urinating against the back of his vehicle. No further action was taken and he was advised as to his future conduct.

Members questioned Mr Sediq regarding his driving record and the complaint noted against him and were satisfied with his explanations

RESOLVED

Members considered Mr Sediq a fit and proper person to be granted a Private Hire Driver's Licence with the Authority.

**8. APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MR ATIF KHAN (7 FEBRUARY 1985), 133 BLACKBERRY LANE, COVENTRY, CV2 3JT**

Members were advised that Mr Khan had declared on his application that he had accumulated three penalty points on his DVLA Driving Licence, for driving without due care and attention, which would remain on his licence until 31 March 2024. His DBS Certificate revealed a conviction from 2012 for destroying or causing damage to property but he failed to declare such on his application. Mr Khan did confirm that he was licensed by both Wolverhampton City Council and Transport for London and checks with those authorities confirmed he had reported his motoring conviction to Wolverhampton but not Transport for London.

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Members questioned Mr Khan as to his time in the Private Hire trade and responses made on his application form

RESOLVED

Members were content with explanations given by Mr Khan and considered him a fit and proper person to hold a Private Hire Driver's Licence with the Authority.

**9. REVIEW OF PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE GRANTED TO MR HEMIN JAMIL MOHAMMED (1 JANUARY 1980), 1190 COVENTRY ROAD, YARDLEY, BIRMINGHAM, B25 8DA**

Members were reminded that Mr Mohammed had appeared before them on 9 February 2022 for breaches of Private Hire Vehicle Licence conditions and a number of complaints recorded against him by UBER. Mr Mohammed was issued with a strict warning for failing to display his Private Hire Vehicle Licence Plate in the prescribed manner, and in relation to the complaints was ordered to attend regular review meetings for twelve months from June 2022.

The Licensing Officer advised Members that UBER had confirmed there was one complaint in relation to a fare issue on 8 March 2022, in which Mr Mohammed was unable to complete the trip but the rider was charged a fee. The matter was resolved and no further action taken. No safety related complaints were recorded against Mr Mohammed by either the Council or his Operator.

RESOLVED

Members were pleased that there were no significant issues reported against Mr Mohammed and were content to allow him to continue to hold a Private Hire Driver's Licence with the Authority. Members agreed to delegate future reviews of Mr Mohammed's licence to the Licensing Team Leader.