

LICENSING DRIVER PANEL Agenda

Date Tuesday 3 December 2024

Time 9.30 am

Venue Lees Suite, Civic Centre, Oldham, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1NL

Notes 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote he/she is advised to contact Alex Bougatef or Constitutional Services at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

2. CONTACT OFFICER for this agenda is Constitutional Services email constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS - Any Member of the public wishing to ask a question at the above meeting can do so only if a written copy of the question is submitted to the contact officer by 12 noon on Thursday, 28 November 2024.

4. FILMING - The Council, members of the public and the press may record / film / photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and the press are not lawfully excluded. Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Constitutional Services Officer who will instruct that they are not included in the filming.

Please note that anyone using recording equipment both audio and visual will not be permitted to leave the equipment in the room where a private meeting is held.

Recording and reporting the Council's meetings is subject to the law including the law of defamation, the Human Rights Act, the Data Protection Act and the law on public order offences.

Please also note the Public attendance Protocol on the Council's Website

https://www.oldham.gov.uk/homepage/1449/attending_council_meetings

MEMBERSHIP OF THE LICENSING DRIVER PANEL

Councillors Byrne, Chowhan, Hamblett, Hindle, J. Hussain, S. Hussain (Chair) and Shuttleworth

1 Apologies For Absence

2 Urgent Business

Urgent business, if any, introduced by the Chair

3 Declarations of Interest

To Receive Declarations of Interest in any Contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting.

4 Public Question Time

To receive Questions from the Public, in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

5 Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 12)

The Minutes of the meetings held on 1st October 2024 an 5th November 2024 are attached for approval.

6 Order of Proceedings (Pages 13 - 14)

7 Exclusion of the Press and Public

That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraph(s) 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

8 DP/2024/86 (Pages 15 - 20)

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to a conviction calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application has been referred to this Panel for determination.

9 DP/2024/80 (Pages 21 - 32)

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to a conviction calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application has been referred to this Panel for determination.

10 DP/2024/70 (Pages 33 - 38)

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to a conviction calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application has been referred to this Panel for determination.

11 DP/2024/88 (Pages 39 - 44)

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to a conviction calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application has been referred to this Panel for determination.

12 DP/2024/89 (Pages 45 - 50)

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to a conviction calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application has been referred to this Panel for determination.

13 DP/2024/90 (Pages 51 - 58)

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to a conviction calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application has been referred to this Panel for determination.

14 Appeals Update (Pages 59 - 62)

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on any appeals against the decisions of the Council's Licensing Drivers Panel.

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 5

LICENSING DRIVER PANEL

05/11/2024 at 9.30 am

Present: Councillors Byrne (item 10 onwards), Chowhan, Hamblett, Hindle, J. Hussain, S. Hussain (Chair) and Shuttleworth

Also in attendance
Elise Brophy- Licensing Officer
Susan Loftus- Licensing Projects & Hearings Officer
Alan Evans- Group Solicitor
Durga Paul- Constitutional Services

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

5 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2024 be approved as a correct record.

6 **ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS**

RESOLVED that the Order of Proceedings be noted.

7 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

8 **DP/2024/79**

The Panel considered a report to inform them of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to a conviction recorded against the Applicant calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application was referred to the Panel for determination.

RESOLVED that, based on the information provided to the Panel, having taken into account the reason the Applicant has appeared before the Panel, namely: a conviction, the report written by the Officer, their recommendations, the Applicant's comments and the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability, the Applicant is not a fit and proper person and

accordingly the application be REFUSED in accordance with the guidelines in the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability.

NOTE: The Applicant attended the meeting and addressed the Panel.

9

DP/2024/82

The Panel considered a report to inform them of an application to renew a Dual Driver's licence, which, due to convictions recorded against the Driver calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application was referred to the Panel for determination.

RESOLVED that, based on the information provided to the Panel, having taken into account the reason the Applicant has appeared before the Panel, namely: convictions, the report written by the Officer, their recommendations, the Applicant's comments and the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability, the Applicant is deemed to be a fit and proper person and accordingly the application is GRANTED for a probationary period of twelve months to be extended for a further 2 years if no issues about the Applicant's conduct arise in the meantime. The decision to grant was made on the grounds that a period of suspension is not required as the Applicant has not been working as a Private Hire Driver for several months since the offence occurred.

NOTE: The Applicant attended the meeting and addressed the Panel.

10

DP/2024/87

The Panel considered a report to inform them of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to a conviction recorded against the Applicant calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application was referred to the Panel for determination.

RESOLVED that, based on the information provided to the Panel, having taken into account the reason the Applicant has appeared before the Panel, namely: a conviction, the report written by the Officer, their recommendations, the Applicant's comments and the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability, the Applicant is not a fit and proper person and accordingly the application be REFUSED in accordance with the guidelines in the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability.

NOTE: The Applicant attended the meeting and addressed the Panel.

11

DP/2024/83

The Panel considered a report to inform them of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to convictions recorded against the Applicant calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As

such, the application was referred to the Panel for determination.

RESOLVED that, based on the information provided to the Panel, having taken into account the reason the Applicant has appeared before the Panel, namely: convictions, the report written by the Officer, their recommendations, the Applicant's comments and the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability, the Applicant is not a fit and proper person and accordingly the application be REFUSED in accordance with the guidelines in the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability.

NOTE: The Applicant attended the meeting and addressed the Panel.

12

DP/2024/62

Application withdrawn.

13

DP/2024/85

The Panel considered a report to inform them of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to convictions recorded against the Applicant calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application was referred to the Panel for determination.

RESOLVED that, based on the information provided to the Panel, having taken into account the reason the Applicant has appeared before the Panel, namely: convictions, the report written by the Officer, their recommendations, the Applicant's comments and the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability, the Applicant is not a fit and proper person and accordingly the application be REFUSED in accordance with the guidelines in the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability, on the grounds that the Applicant has 3 convictions/incidents of alcohol related behaviour, and the Panel is not satisfied that the Applicant, at present, has the appropriate temperament for the role of a taxi driver.

NOTE: The Applicant attended the meeting and addressed the Panel.

The meeting started at 9.30am and ended at 12.58pm

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LICENSING DRIVER PANEL

01/10/2024 at 9.30 am

Present: Councillors Byrne, Hamblett, Hindle, J. Hussain S.
Hussain (Chair) and Shuttleworth

Also in attendance
Elise Brophy- Licensing Officer
Susan Loftus- Licensing Projects & Hearings Officer
Alan Evans- Group Solicitor
Durga Paul- Constitutional Services

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The were no Public Questions for this meeting to consider.

5 **ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS**

RESOLVED that the Order of Proceedings be noted.

6 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

7 **DP/2024/49**

The Panel considered a report to inform them of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to convictions recorded against the Applicant calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application was referred to the Panel for determination.

This report appeared before the Panel at a previous meeting and was deferred following a request to the Police for additional information. Officers were unable to obtain any additional information so it has returned to Panel for determination.

RESOLVED that, based on the information provided to the Panel, having taken into account the reason the Applicant has appeared before the Panel, namely: convictions, the report written by the Officer, their recommendations, the Applicant's comments and the Council's Statement of Fitness and

Suitability, the Applicant is not a fit and proper person and accordingly the application be REFUSED in accordance with the guidelines in the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability.

NOTE: The Applicant attended the meeting and addressed the Panel.

8

DP/2024/75

Application withdrawn

9

DP/2024/76

The Panel considered a report to inform them of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to convictions recorded against the Applicant calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application was referred to the Panel for determination.

RESOLVED that, based on the information provided to the Panel, having taken into account the reason the Applicant has appeared before the Panel, namely: convictions, the report written by the Officer, their recommendations, the Applicant's comments and the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability, the Applicant is not a fit and proper person and accordingly the application be REFUSED in accordance with the guidelines in the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability.

NOTE: The Applicant and a representative attended the meeting and addressed the Panel.

10

DP/2024/77

The Panel considered a report to inform them of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to convictions recorded against the Applicant calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application was referred to the Panel for determination.

RESOLVED that, based on the information provided to the Panel, having taken into account the reason the Applicant has appeared before the Panel, namely: convictions, the report written by the Officer, their recommendations, the Applicant's comments and the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability, the Applicant is not a fit and proper person and accordingly the application be REFUSED in accordance with the guidelines in the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability.

NOTE: The Applicant attended the meeting and addressed the Panel.

11

DP/2024/81

The Panel considered an application to review a licence, due to convictions of the Driver which calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application was referred to the Panel for determination.

RESOLVED that, based on the information provided to the Panel, having taken into account the reason the Driver has appeared before the Panel, namely: convictions, the report written by the Officer, their recommendations, the Driver's comments and the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability the Driver is not a fit and proper person and accordingly the licence is to be **SUSPENDED** for a period of 28 days as the Driver has held a licence with Oldham Council since 2017 with no previous complaints about his behaviour, the Panel considered that a suspension was the most appropriate sanction.

NOTE: The Driver attended the meeting and addressed the Panel.

12

DP/2024/78

The Panel considered a report to inform them of an application for a new Dual Driver's licence, which, due to a complaint recorded against the Applicant by another licensing authority calls in to question their fitness and propriety to be a suitable person to hold such a licence. As such, the application was referred to the Panel for determination.

RESOLVED that, based on the information provided to the Panel, having taken into account the reason the Applicant has appeared before the Panel, namely a complaint about his conduct, the report written by the Officer, their recommendations, the Applicant's comments and the Council's Statement of Fitness and Suitability, the Applicant is deemed to be a fit and proper person and accordingly the application is **GRANTED** for a probationary period of twelve months to be extended for a further 2 years if no complaints about the Applicant are received in the meantime. The decision to grant the licence was made on the grounds that the Applicant has continued to work as a Private Hire Driver since the incident with no further complaints about his behaviour.

NOTE: The Applicant attended the meeting and addressed the Panel.

13

APPEAL UPDATE 01/10/2024

RESOLVED that, the appeals update was noted by the panel.

The meeting started at 9.30am and ended at 1.22pm

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LICENSING PANEL (DRIVERS) ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers Applications and Reviews

Panel Members and Officers introduce themselves

1. The Licensing Officer will introduce the Applicant/Driver and their representative (if they have one).
2. The Licensing Officer will introduce the application/review and the reasons for bringing it to the Panel.
3. Members and the Applicant/Driver and their representative may question the Licensing Officer
4. The Applicant/Driver and their representative will be offered the opportunity to make representations or add any further information.
5. Members or Officers may then question the Applicant/Driver.
6. The Licensing Officer will then summarise.
7. The Applicant/Driver and their representative will be offered the opportunity to summarise their case.
8. All parties will be asked to leave the room while the Panel considers the matter and will be brought back in to be informed of the Panel's decision.

Licensing Officer will leave with the Applicant/Driver and their representative and explain to them outside the meeting what happens next.

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