

**REGULATORY PANEL.**

Minutes of a remote meeting of  
29 April 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Brian Connolly (Chair), Andy Campbell, Iain Campbell, Ian Cavana, Alec Clark, Ian Fitzsimmons, Mary Kilpatrick, Craig Mackay and Margaret Toner.

Attending: M. Douglas, Team Leader (Licensing); R. Hannah, Fleet Officer; M. Wright, Fleet Inspector; D. Scobie, Civic Licensing Standards Officer; and J. McClure, Committee Services Lead Officer.

Also

Attending: Inspector I. McCall, Police Scotland.

**1. Chair's Remarks.**

The Chair took the sederunt and confirmed that today's meeting was not open to the press and public, which was permissible under the COVID-19 legislation. He also confirmed to Members the procedures to conduct this meeting and that this meeting was being recorded for minuting purposes only.

**2. Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest by Members of the Panel in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting.**

The minutes of 18 March 2021 (issued) were submitted and approved.

**4. Update from Civic Licensing Standards Officer**

The Civic Licensing Standards Officer advised

- (1) that the failure statistics for Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles for the final quarter of 2020, from 1 October to 31 December 2020 compared to the same period in 2019 were as follows:-
  - (a) 9% failure rate for the thirty five Taxi Vehicles tested and three vehicles which failed; as opposed to 24% in 2019 when thirty four Taxi Vehicles were tested and eight failed; and
  - (b) a 2% failure rate for the forty two Private Hire Vehicles tested and one failure as opposed to 9% last year when forty five vehicles were tested and four failed;

- (2) that the failure statistics for Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles for the first quarter of 2021, from 1 January to 31 March 2021, compared to the same period in 2020 were as follows:-
- (a) 15% failure rate for the twenty seven Taxi Vehicles tested and four vehicles which failed; as opposed to 10% in 2020 when twenty nine Taxi Vehicles were tested and three failed; and
  - (b) a 3% failure rate for the thirty five Private Hire Vehicles tested and one failure as opposed to 4% last year when forty five vehicles were tested and two failed; and
- (3) that the three Taxi Operators whose vehicles had failed the test had been brought to the attention of the Panel and that all operators would continue to be monitored, however, there would be very few inspections carried in the next few months as there were no tests carried out between 23 March and 18 May 2020.

**Decided:** to note the update from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer.

**5. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 - Licences.**

**(a) Taxi Driver.**

The Panel heard from Police Scotland and from the applicant, Duncan Paul in response.

**Decided:** to approve this application for three years, subject to standard conditions as previously agreed.

**(b) Taxi Vehicle.**

The Panel heard from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer and the Fleet Officer in relation to the proposed suspension of the licence held by Samuel Prow (licence number 19/00814//HCVL, Registration SF11 EDL – Plate 100).

**Decided:** to continue consideration of this application to the next meeting of this Panel to allow the applicant to attend.

**(c) Taxi Driver.**

The Panel heard from Police Scotland and considered the proposed suspension of the licence held by James McGough.

**Decided:** to suspend the Taxi Driver Licence held by James McGough with immediate effect for a period of six weeks or until a hearing under paragraph 11 of the Act, whichever shall be earlier.

The meeting ended at 10.50 a.m.