

**REGULATORY PANEL.**

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, on  
27th August 2015 at 10.00 a.m.

- Present: Councillors Peter Convery (Chair), Andy Campbell, Ian Cavana, Ian Douglas, Ann Galbraith, Sandra Goldie, William J. Grant and Hugh Hunter.
- Attending: Morag Douglas, Team Leader (Licensing); Donna Scobie, Licensing Monitoring Officer; and Janice McClure, Committee Services Officer.
- In Attendance: Inspector Alister Kelly and Sergeant Gareth Griffiths, Police Scotland.

**1. 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.

**2. Minutes of previous meeting.**

The minutes of 18th June 2015 (issued) ([link attached](#)) were submitted and approved.

**3. Review of Metered Taxi and Private Hire Fares.**

There was submitted a report (issued) ([link attached](#)) of 13th August 2014 by the Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation seeking approval to review metered fares for taxis.

**Decided:**

- (i) to approve the proposed maximum fares to be advertised as follows, to allow for representations:-

Unit

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| • Distance not exceeding 1180 yards or for a time not exceeding 4 minutes 40 seconds | £ 2.80 |
| • Each additional 80 yards or 24 seconds   | £ 0.10 |
| • Night-time charge (midnight to 6 a.m.) per hire                                    | £ 1.00 |
| • Each completed period of 48 seconds  | £ 0.20 |
| • Fouling charge   | £60.00 |

Unit

- Christmas and New Year (from 9.00 p.m. on 24th December to 6.00 a.m. on 27th December and from 9.00 p.m. on 31st December to 6.00 a.m. on 3rd January) X 1.5 metered fare
  - 6/7/8 seater vehicles where 6, 7 or 8 passengers are carried an enhanced charge X 1.5 metered fare
  - Fares for the shared hire of metered vehicles and all other charges in connection with the shared hire of metered vehicles, or with the arrangements for their shared hire, shall not be greater than those above; and
- (ii) to advertise the proposed fare structure in the local press to allow interested parties to make representation in terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and to request a further report to a future meeting of this Panel following publication of the proposed fares.

**4. Variation in order of business.**

In terms of Council Standing Order No. 13.2, the Panel agreed to vary the order of business as hereinafter minuted.

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

- (i) The Panel heard an objection from Police Scotland and from the applicant, Robert Thomson, in response and considered references lodged.

**Decided:** that this application be refused on the grounds that, in terms of paragraph 5(3)(a)(ii) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, in their opinion, the applicant was not a fit and proper person to be the holder of the licence.

- (ii) Reference was made to the Minutes of 18th June 2015 (Page 2, paragraph 5(a)(i)) when it had been decided, in the absence of the applicant, to continue consideration of the application from Paul William Houston to this meeting to allow him to attend.

The Panel then heard an observation from Police Scotland and considered the letter submitted by the applicant.

**Decided:** in the absence of the applicant, to again continue consideration of this application to allow the applicant, Paul William Houston, to attend.

- (iii) Reference was made to the Minutes of 18th June 2015 (Page 2, paragraph 5(a)(iv)) when it had been decided, in the absence of the applicant, to continue consideration of the application from Ronald Alexander Johnstone to this meeting to allow him to attend.

The Panel then heard an observation from Police Scotland and from the applicant in response.

Councillor Hunter, seconded by Councillor Grant, moved that the application be approved for one year.

By way of Amendment, Councillor Cavana, seconded by Councillor Douglas, moved that the application be approved for three years.

On a vote being taken by a show of hands, three members voted for the Amendment and five for the Motion which was accordingly declared carried.

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

- (iv) The Panel considered the application from Samuel Jamieson Taylor.

**Decided:** in the absence of the applicant, to continue consideration of this application to allow the applicant, Samuel Jamieson Taylor, to attend.

- (v) The Panel heard an observation from Police Scotland and from the applicant, Stephen Douglas Bletsoe in response.

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

- (vi) The Panel heard an objection from Police Scotland and from the applicant, James Ferguson Mitchell, in response.

**Decided:** that this application be refused on the grounds that, in terms of paragraph 5(3)(a)(ii) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, in their opinion, the applicant was not a fit and proper person to be the holder of the licence.

- (vii) The Panel considered the application from Alexander Hastings.

**Decided:** in the absence of the applicant, to continue consideration of this application to allow the applicant, Alexander Hastings, to attend

**(b) Private Hire Drivers.**

- (i) The Panel heard an observation from Police Scotland and from the applicant, James Lewis in response.

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

- (ii) The Panel heard an observation from Police Scotland and from the applicant, Robert Fullarton in response.

Councillor Hunter moved that the application be approved for one year. Councillor Hunter failed to find a seconder and his Motion, therefore, fell.

**Decided:** by a majority, to approve this application for three years, subject to standard conditions as previously agreed (Councillor Hunter dissenting).

**Councillor Hunter left the meeting at this point.**

**(c) Private Hire Vehicles.**

- (i) The Panel heard an observation from Police Scotland, from the Licensing Monitoring Officer and from the applicant, William Gerard Moran, in response and adjourned for consideration of this application

**Decided:** upon reconvening, to approve this application for one year, subject to standard conditions as previously agreed.

- (ii) The Panel heard an observation from Police Scotland, from the Licensing Monitoring Officer and from the applicant, Amjad Sultan Chadhar, in response.

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

**6. Exclusion of press and public.**

The Panel resolved, in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the press and public be excluded from the remaining item of business on the agenda, on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

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

**Taxi Driver.**

The Panel heard an observation from Police Scotland and from the representative for the applicant, Peter McCutcheon Brown, in response.

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

The meeting ended at 11.20 a.m.