

REGULATORY PANEL.

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, on
16th February 2017 at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Councillors Peter Convery (Chair), Andy Campbell, Ian Douglas, Ann Galbraith, Sandra Goldie, William J. Grant and Hugh Hunter.

Apology: Councillor Ian Cavana.

Attending: M. Douglas, Team Leader (Licensing); D. Scobie, Licensing Monitoring Officer; J. McClure, Committee Services Lead Officer; and Sergeant G. 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 meetings.

The minutes of 19th January 2017 (issued) were submitted and approved.

3. Update from Licensing Monitoring Officer.

The Licensing Monitoring Officer advised

- (1) that the failure statistics for Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles for the final quarter of 2016 compared to the same period in 2015 were as follows:-
 - (a) 3% failure rate for Taxi Vehicles as opposed to 5% last year which was encouraging;
 - (b) a 3% failure rate for Private Hire Vehicles as opposed to 0% last year which was a slight increase;
- (2) that there had been a 6% decrease on failures rates as a whole for 2016 compared to 2015 which was positive;
- (3) that she would continue to monitor vehicle operators; and
- (4) that she had carried out a day of action in conjunction with Police Scotland whereby fifteen vehicles were inspected and three notices issued for various reasons and that further days of action were being planned.

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

(a) **Taxi Driver.**

The Panel heard from the Licensing Standards Officer and from the representative for the applicant, Thomas William McGhee, in response and adjourned for consideration of this application.

Decided: upon reconvening and having heard Councillor Campbell outline that, following discussion with the applicant's representative prior to the adjournment, he had taken no part in the deliberations, to approve this application for one year, subject to standard conditions as previously agreed.

(b) **Taxi Vehicle Licence.**

The Panel heard from the Licensing Standards Officer and from the applicant, Patrick Gary Welsh, in response.

Decided: to approve this application for three years, subject to standard conditions as previously agreed and the vehicle being presented for testing every six months.

(c) **Private Hire Vehicle Licences.**

(i) The Panel considered the proposed suspension of the licence currently held by Craig Boswell as he had failed to present the car for Annual Inspection (inspection due by 31st January 2017).

Decided: to suspend the licence currently held by Craig Boswell for its unexpired portion as he had failed to present the car for Annual Inspection in terms of Condition 3 of the Private Hire Vehicle.

(ii) The Panel considered the proposed suspension of the licence currently held by William Anderson Milroy as he had failed to present the car for Annual Inspection (inspection due by 31st January 2017).

Decided: having heard the Team Leader (Licensing) advise that the licence holder had now returned his plates, to take no further action.

(d) **Street Trader.**

Gordon Beattie for Sale of Hot and Cold Food at Green Street/York Street/Waggon Road, Ayr.

The Panel heard an objection from Police Scotland in relation to this application.

Decided: in the absence of the applicant, to refuse this application 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.

The meeting ended at 10.45 a.m.