

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 8 AUGUST 2012

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 8 August 2012 at 3.00 pm

Present: Councillors Ahlfeld, Brennan, Campbell-Sturgess, Dorrian, Jones, Loughran, McColgan, McEleny, McIlwee and Rebecchi.

Chair: Councillor Dorrian presided.

In attendance: Mr J Douglas (for Head of Legal & Democratic Services), Sergeant McDonald, Strathclyde Police, and Jim Bradley (for Head of Environmental and Commercial Services).

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Board.

411 **Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest**

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No apologies for absence, substitutions or declarations of interest were intimated.

412 **Taxi Fares Review 2012**

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There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on the outcome of the annual review of taxi fare scales for the purposes of public advertisement as the first formal stage of the statutory process.

The Board considered the proposals submitted by Inverclyde Taxis Ltd on behalf of the trade and comments by the Head of Environmental and Commercial Services on their proposals.

The Board heard from Mr Bradley on some points raised by Members and there followed a full discussion on the report and appendices and in particular to the layout and ease of comparison.

Decided: (a) remit to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to amend the format of the report submitted;
 (b) continue consideration to the next meeting of the Board; and
 (c) Representatives of the Trade were invited to provide evidence to the Board that the proposals submitted accorded with the wishes of their drivers.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

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Mr Douglas advised the Board of a request by Mr Lamb, Maitlands acting for Mr James Moore's application if the application could be considered earlier than placed on the Agenda. The Board agreed.

413**Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: James Moore****413**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on an application for renewal of a Taxi Driver's Licence by Mr Moore following a Police representation.

Mr Lamb, Maitlands, was present representing the applicant, Mr Moore was also present.

The Board heard Sergeant McDonald in support of the Police representation and Mr Lamb and Mr Moore in support of the application. Mr Lamb circulated certified documentation to the Board in support of his client's application.

Decided: that the application be granted with warning.

414**Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Allan Robertshaw****414**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services on an application for grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence by Mr Robertshaw following a representation by Strathclyde Police.

Mr Robertshaw was present.

The Board heard Sergeant McDonald in support of the Police representation and Mr Robertshaw in support of his application.

Decided: that the application be granted.

415**Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Richard Fulton****415**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services on an application for grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence by Mr Fulton following a representation by Strathclyde Police.

Mr Fulton was not present or represented.

The Board heard Sergeant McDonald in support of the Police representation.

Councillor McEleny moved grant of the application, as an amendment Councillor Campbell-Sturgess moved refusal. On a vote one member voted for the motion and nine members for the amendment which was declared carried.

Decided: that the application be refused.

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A discussion took place on the completion of application forms and in particular to entry of convictions. Members raised the issue of training Customer Contact Centre staff on this matter. Mr Douglas advised the Board that the Licensing Section and Manager of the Customer Contact Centre are in the process of organising such training together with Strathclyde Police.

416 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Craig Laughlin**416**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on an application for grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence by Mr Laughlin following a Police representation.

Mr Laughlin was present.

The Board heard Sergeant McDonald in support of the Police representation and additional information submitted by letter dated 1 August 2012 with reference to a pending case on behalf of the applicant.

The Board heard Mr Laughlin in support of his application.

There followed a brief discussion and the Board asked Mr Laughlin if he would be willing to submit a medical certificate to the Board from his GP or appropriate authority and documented evidence from his insurance company. Mr Laughlin agreed to provide the additional information.

Decided: to continue consideration of the application to the next meeting of the Board to allow Mr Laughlin to provide the necessary information.

417 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Brian Hill**417**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on an application for grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence by Mr Hill following a Police objection.

Mr Hill was not present or represented.

The Board heard Sergeant McDonald in support of the Police objection and additional information submitted by letter dated 30 July 2012.

Decided: that the application be refused.

418 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Gary Docherty**418**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on an application for renewal of a Taxi Driver's Licence by Mr Docherty.

Mr Docherty was present.

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The Board heard Sergeant McDonald who intimated that Strathclyde Police have no comment to make on the application.

Mr Douglas advised the Board on the background of the applicant and previous attendance at the Board on 14 March 2012.

The Board heard Mr Docherty in support of his application.

Decided: that the application be granted.