## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE B HELD ON 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2013 AT 10.00 A.M.

- P Councillor Fi Hance
- P Councillor Jeff Lovell
- P Councillor David Morris
- P Councillor Ron Stone

#### **PSP**

#### 32.7/13 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

- RESOLVED (1) that Councillor Hance be elected Chair of the Public Safety and Protection Sub-Committee B for the 2013/14 municipal year; and
  - (2) that Councillor Lovell be elected Vice-Chair of the Public Safety and Protection Sub-Committee B for the 2013/14 municipal year.

#### **PSP**

### 33.7/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, SUBSTITUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no apologies or declarations of interest received.

#### **PSP**

#### 34.7/13 SUB-COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED - that the sub-committee terms of reference, agreed at the annual meeting of the Public Safety and Protection Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2013, be noted.

#### **PSP**

#### 35.7/13 PUBLIC FORUM

Nothing was received.

#### **PSP**

36.7/13

CONSIDERATION OF THE SUSPENSION OF COMMITTEE PROCEDURE RULES (CMR 10 AND 11) RELATING TO THE MOVING OF MOTIONS AND RULES OF DEBATE FOR THE DURATION OF THE MEETING

RESOLVED - that having regard to the quasi judicial nature of the business on the agenda, those Committee Rules relating to the moving of motions and the rules of debate (CMR 10 and 11) be suspended for the duration of the meeting.

#### **PSP**

37.7/13 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

**RESOLVED -**

that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

#### **PSP**

38.7/13

APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENCE SEEKING DEPARTURE FROM BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL POLICY – TSS

(Exempt paragraph 3 – Information relating to person's financial or business affairs)

As a result of the decision made by the Committee in relation to Agenda Item No. 8, the applicant requested that consideration of this item be deferred until a future Meeting.

RESOLVED - that consideration of this item be deferred until a future Meeting.

#### **PSP**

39.7/13

REPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER LICENCE – TSS

(Exempt paragraph 3 – Information relating to person's financial or business affairs)

The Sub-Committee considered an exempt report of the Director of Neighbourhoods (Agenda Item No. 8) considering an application for the grant of a Hackney Carriage Driver (HCD) licence.

TSS was in attendance, accompanied by his solicitor.

The Chair explained the procedure that would be followed and everyone introduced themselves.

The Licensing Officer introduced the report and summarised it for everyone.

TSS, assisted by his solicitor, put his case and answered questions highlighting the following:

- The offence occurred after he had visited a friend's house to repair a shower; he was given half a glass of beer which he drank; his friend then mixed up the drinks by mistake and he drank his friend's drink which contained beer and vodka; he had been driving home when he was stopped 100 yards from his house and failed the breath test by being twice over the legal limit for driving
- He was convicted on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011 but an appeal was lodged so that the sentence did not come into effect until 27<sup>th</sup> January 2012; his licence was returned on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013
- Prior to the offence he had not eaten for 24 hours as he had been in pain; he had also taken prescribed painkillers before drinking the alcohol; he considered that these two issues may have contributed to him being unfit to drive through alcohol
- He has been a taxi driver for 15 years and has never had any other problems; he is teetotal now and he produced the results a test to confirm this (his solicitor suggested he took the test as evidence he does drink alcohol); he does seminars in his community warning about the dangers of alcohol and its effects; he also circulated 3 other references
- He is an electronics engineer and lived in Canada for 3 years, but when he returned to the UK he was unable to get a job in

this field so started driving taxis; he has 3 children; his wife works, but hers is the only income his household has; there are other members of his family who are financially dependent on him

- He is very sorry for what happened and assured Members it would not happen again; he asked that Members use their discretion to issue him with a licence
- He confirmed that he advised his insurance company when he lost his DVLA Licence
- · He summed up his case

The Licensing Officer advised Members that he was not obliged to disclose the offence at the time of the conviction but was required to disclose it when he applied for the renewal of his licence. On his first application he did not disclose the conviction and only disclosed it after he was invited to submit a second application.

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development left the room.

Details of the Committee's findings and reasons for the decision are set out in Appendix 1.

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development returned to the room to hear the decision of the Committee.

RESOLVED - that the application by TSS for a Hackney Carriage Licence be refused as he has not convinced the Council he is a fit and proper person to hold such a licence.

#### PSP 40.7/13

### REPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE – MAQ

(Exempt paragraph 3 – Information relating to person's financial or business affairs)

The Sub-Committee considered an exempt report of the Director of Neighbourhoods (Agenda Item No. 9) considering an application for the grant of a Private Hire Driver (PHD) licence.

MAQ was in attendance.

The Chair explained the procedure that would be followed and everyone introduced themselves.

The Licensing Officer introduced the report and summarised it for everyone.

MAQ put his case and answered questions highlighting the following:

- He is aware that he does not meet the Group 2 requirement due to a sight defect he has had from birth; he has adapted himself to deal with this problem
- He has passed the DSA and produced the certificate to confirm this
- He needs a licence to do private hire work
- He has driven a car for a number of years without any problems
- He was not aware that he would require to meet the Group 2 Standard to obtain a Private Hire Licence as the Group 2 Standard is usually only applied to anyone wanting to drive a vehicle with more than 8 seats
- He summed up his case

The Licensing Officer confirmed that meeting the Group 2 Standard is a BCC requirement.

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development left the room.

Details of the Committee's findings and reasons for the decision are set out in Appendix 2.

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development returned to the room to hear the decision of the Committee.

**RESOLVED - that MAQ be granted a Private Hire Driver's** 

### Licence subject to him passing the other elements of the fit and proper test.

#### PSP 41.7/13

## REPORT OF A CONVICTION RECEIVED BY THE HOLDER OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER, HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER AND PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR LICENCE – RM

(Exempt paragraph 3 – Information relating to person's financial or business affairs)

The Sub-Committee considered an exempt report of the Director of Neighbourhoods (Agenda Item No. 10) determining if any action is required as a result of a conviction received by the holder of a Private Hire Driver (PHD), Hackney Carriage Driver (HCD) and Private Hire Operator (PHO) licence.

RM was in attendance.

The Chair explained the procedure that would be followed and everyone introduced themselves.

The Licensing Officer introduced the report and summarised it for everyone. She confirmed that the offences related to vehicles having more than 8 seats which are regulated by VOSA.

RM put his case and answered questions highlighting the following:

- · He had been badly advised
- Each vehicle has to have a disc displayed in it but drivers sometimes forget to transfer them from one type vehicle to another; it was suggested to him that he could copy the discs so one could be displayed in each vehicle; he found out this is against the law; he pleaded guilty in court
- He has never done this again and apologised for forgetting to include the offence on his application form
- He has now closed the company and only drives one vehicle to do school runs; he has held a Private Hire Driver's Licence since 1979
- · He summed up his case

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development left the room.

Details of the Committee's findings and reasons for the decision are set out in Appendix 3.

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development returned to the room to hear the decision of the Committee.

**RESOLVED** - that no further action be taken.

#### PSP 42.7/13

### REPORT OF A CONVICTION RECEIVED BY THE HOLDER OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVE LICENCE – PLK

(Exempt paragraph 3 – Information relating to person's financial or business affairs)

The Sub-Committee considered an exempt report of the Director of Neighbourhoods (Agenda Item No. 11) determining if any action is required as a result of a conviction received by the holder of a Hackney Carriage Driver (HCD) licence.

PLK was in attendance.

The Chair explained the procedure that would be followed and everyone introduced themselves.

The Licensing Officer introduced the report and summarised it for everyone.

PLK put his case and answered questions highlighting the following:

- He received a letter from the DVLA requesting he send them his licence; on its return it had 6 penalty points on it
- He had thought the offence related to the issue he described in his letter attached to the report; he now thinks this is not the case
- He thinks the offence relates to when he picked up a passenger in Southmead, got stuck in heavy traffic and was in collision with

a cyclist whilst stopped on a roundabout; the cyclist was injured and the Police were called; they took a statement from himself and his passenger although he was given to understand that no offence had been committed

- He received no notification of the offence
- He summed up his case

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development left the room.

Details of the Committee's findings and reasons for the decision are set out in Appendix 4.

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development returned to the room to hear the decision of the Committee.

RESOLVED - that a warning be issued and no further action taken.

#### PSP 43.7/13

## REPORT OF A CONVICTION RECEIVED THE HOLDER OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MAG

(Exempt paragraph 3 – Information relating to person's financial or business affairs)

The Sub-Committee considered an exempt report of the Director of Neighbourhoods (Agenda Item No. 12) determining if any action is required as a result of a conviction received by the holder of a Private Hire Driver (PHD) licence.

MAG was in attendance, accompanied by his wife.

The Chair explained the procedure that would be followed and everyone introduced themselves.

The Licensing Officer introduced the report and summarised it for everyone.

MAG and his wife put his case and answered questions highlighting the following:

- He has held a taxi licence for 10 years
- This was a one off offence
- It was a favour for a friend to take a friend of the friend to Cardiff
- The other man got into the car with a bag MAG should have had the sense to refuse to take the man
- The Police had been watching the house, saw the man get into the car with the bag and followed the car before stopping it at the Severn Bridge
- The Police Officer got the bag out of the car and showed MAG it contained drugs; he stated they were not his but both men were arrested; the other man initially said he had no knowledge of the drugs but later changed his story and admitted there were his
- MAG was initially released without charge but was later charged
- He initially pleaded not guilty but a week before his trial he was advised by his barrister to plead guilty as he was likely to found guilty and risked being sent to prison; he should have been aware of the smell of cannabis when the other man entered the car; the other man has already pleaded guilty - MAG found this out when they appeared in court together
- His wife and child live in Spain but are financially reliant on MAG; she cannot find work and they losing their house if the mortgage payments are not maintained; MAG would not risk carrying drugs because it would be financially disastrous for the family
- The house is not yet complete so cannot be sold until it is; their son is still in education and is soon to take his exams
- They have a total of 4 children and 4 grand children; they initially went to Spain so that their son would not be exposed to drugs, gangs and weapons
- MAG is anti drugs and set up a youth club to young people avoid them

- They had tried to get a copy of the statement the other man made admitting the drugs were his but have been unsuccessful in obtaining it either through the Police or the Probation Service
- They summed up his case

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development left the room.

Details of the Committee's findings and reasons for the decision are set out in Appendix 5.

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development returned to the room to hear the decision of the Committee.

Following a Vote it was

#### **RESOLVED -**

(i) that the Private Hire Driver's Licence held by MAG be revoked and \that should an application for another licence be received from MAG within two months of the date of the revocation the application be referred to the Committee for determination; and (ii) that MAQ be exempt from passing the tests which he would be required to take if this was a new application rather than a renewal.

#### PSP 44.7/13

### REPORT OF THE CONVICTION OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER –

(Exempt paragraph 3 – Information relating to person's financial or business affairs)

HAH was not in attendance.

It was therefore

RESOLVED - that consideration of this item be deferred until a future Meeting of the Committee.

#### PSP 45.7/13

REPORT OF THE CONVICTION OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER – AB

(Exempt paragraph 3 – Information relating to person's financial or business affairs)

The Sub-Committee considered an exempt report of the Director of Neighbourhoods (Agenda Item No. 14) considering whether any action is necessary in respect of the Private Hire Driver's licence.

AB was in attendance, accompanied by his wife.

The Chair explained the procedure that would be followed and everyone introduced themselves.

The Enforcement Officer introduced the report and summarised it for everyone.

AB and his wife put his case and answered questions highlighting the following:

- He admitted the offence, was taken to court and convicted
- He was trying to fix a wire on his data head at the time of the offence
- He was aware that he was breaking the law at the time of the offence
- · He is very remorseful and sorry about what has happened
- · He summed up his case

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development left the room.

Details of the Committee's findings and reasons for the decision are set out in Appendix 6.

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development returned to the room to hear the decision of the Committee.

RESOLVED - that the Private Hire Driver's Licence held by AB be suspended for a period of three months.

#### PSP 46.7/13

### REPORT OF THE CONVICTION OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER – RZI

(Exempt paragraph 3 – Information relating to person's financial or business affairs)

The Sub-Committee considered an exempt report of the Director of Neighbourhoods (Agenda Item No. 15) considering whether any action is necessary in respect of a Hackney Carriage Driver's licence.

RZI was in attendance.

The Chair explained the procedure that would be followed and everyone introduced themselves.

The Enforcement Officer introduced the report and summarised it for everyone.

RZI put his case and answered questions highlighting the following:

- He pleaded guilty to the offence
- He was flagged down at the Triangle; one passenger got in the front seat and then the car was filled with other people; everyone was shouting at him, they were big lads who were drunk and was unable to leave the vehicle because if they got his key he was concerned they would drive off with his vehicle
- A similar incident had recently happened to him outside the Motion nightclub where he refused to carry the passengers and his vehicle was damaged, thank fully the police had witnessed the incident and he is being compensated by the offenders every week financially
- He reluctantly drove the vehicle nad thought that he would get to the bus station and ask for help from other driver when he got ther. However as he approached the bus station he was stopped by the police. All the passengers ran off and although RZI explained the situation to the police they told him it was his responsibility and the Police did not arrest anyone else
- · RZI explained to the members that he was considering

removing the front seat vehicle even though he used it to carry his son who is disabled

He summed up his case

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development left the room.

Details of the Committee's findings and reasons for the decision are set out in Appendix 7.

All parties and the representatives of the Director of Neighbourhoods and City Development returned to the room to hear the decision of the Committee.

RESOLVED - that no further action be taken.

#### **PSP**

### 47.7/13 COMPLAINT OF OFFENDING CONDUCT – HOLDER OF HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER LICENCE – AA

(Exempt paragraph 3 – Information relating to person's financial or business affairs)

The Licensing Officer advised Members that this item had been removed from the Agenda.

#### **INFORMATION ITEM**

#### **PSP**

#### 48.7/13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED - that the next meeting be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013 at 10.00 a.m. and is likely to be a meeting of Sub-Committee A.

(The meeting ended at 4.00 pm.)

CHAIR

# MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE B HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2013 AT 10.00 AM

PSP 39.7/13 Agenda Item No: 8

#### Agenda title

REPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER LICENCE – TSS

#### **Finding of Fact**

TSS was convicted of driving with excess alcohol by Bristol Magistrates on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011.

#### **Decision**

That the application for the grant of a Hackney Carriage Driver's Licence in respect of AT be refused on the ground contained in section 59 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 in that TSS had not satisfied the Council that he was a fit and proper person to hold such a Licence.

#### **Reasons for Decision**

Members considered very carefully all of the written and verbal evidence presented to them.

They noted the noted circumstances of the offence and the references provided by TSS. However noting that their Policy they did not consider that TSS had provided enough evidence to persuade them to set their Policy aside and make an exception to it in his case.

They therefore decided to refuse his application.

Members of the Sub-Committee were mindful of their overriding responsibility to protect members of the public and therefore the Council was entitled to expect high standards of conduct from those whom it licensed. The Council has a duty to ensure so far as possible that those licensed to drive hackney carriage vehicles are suitable persons to do so in that they are, amongst other things, safe drivers with good driving records and honest.

Members considered the offence drink driving which in accordance with the Council's policy are classed as a major traffic offence where the driver is disqualified and a conviction for this type of offence within the last 5 years is likely to merit refusal. Driving twice over the limit was considered to be a serious offence when deciding whether the applicant is to be treated as a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

The Members took into consideration that TSS had a family to support and was struggling financially. However, the Members were mindful of the responsibility it was charged with to protect members of the public.

Obviously, each case has to be decided on its own merits and the Members carefully considered the representations made by the applicant but decided on balance of probabilities that TSS should not be treated as an exception to the Council's policy. The Applicant had not presented any exceptional circumstances for the Members to depart from the Council's policy. TSS's drivers license was restored on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013 and it was too soon to consider that TSS was a fit and proper person given the policy expectation.

The Members were not satisfied that TSS was a fit and proper person to hold Hackney carriage Drivers Licence and decided unanimously to refuse the application.

Chair's Signature			

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE B HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2013 AT 10.00 AM

PSP 40.7/13 Agenda Item No: 9

#### Agenda title

REPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE – MAQ

#### **Decision**

That MAQ be granted a Private Hire Driver's Licence subject to him passing the other elements of the fit and proper test.

#### **Reasons for Decision**

Members considered very carefully all of the written and verbal evidence presented to them.

Members noted that the Council had adopted a policy to adopt the Grp two requirment. Members considered whether they should excercise thier discretion and depart from the policy. Members noted that MAQ was born with monocular vision and that his condition was not degenerative. Members noted that MAQ had adjusted to monocular vision; he had passed the DSA test; and he had been driving a number of years without any apparent problems.

They therefore decided to depart from their policy and decided that MAQ should be exempt from the grp 2 requirement as his monocular vision should not be considered a bar to him being granted a Private Hire Driver's Licence subject to him passing the other elements of the fit and proper test.

**Appendix 3** 

#### **BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL**

# MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE B HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2013 AT 10.00 AM

PSP 41.7/13 Agenda Item No: 10

#### Agenda title

REPORT OF A CONVICTION RECEIVED BY THE HOLDER OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER, HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER AND PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR LICENCE – RM

#### **Finding of Fact**

RM was convicted at North Avon Magistrates Court on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

#### **Decision**

That no further action be taken.

#### **Reasons for Decision**

Members considered very carefully all of the written and verbal evidence presented to them.

Members considered their policy on offences concerning dishonesty and considered that they should depart from this policy as RM did not intentionally wish to defraud anyone and did not defraud the public, or deprive anyone of money, property or other benefit.

Appendix 4

#### **BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL**

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE B HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2013 AT 10.00 AM

PSP 42.7/13 Agenda Item No: 11

#### Agenda title

RÉPORT OF A CONVICTION RECEIVED BY THE HOLDER OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVE LICENCE – PLK

#### **Finding of Fact**

PLK was found guilty of Driving without due care and attention on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013.

#### **Decision**

That a warning be issued and no further action be taken.

#### **Reasons for Decision**

Members considered very carefully all of the written and verbal evidence presented to them.

They noted that he admitted the offence, although the details of it were not clear. They noted his previous good record. Taking account of their Policy they agreed to issue a warning and take no further action.

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE B HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2013 AT 10.00 AM

PSP 43.7/13 Agenda Item No: 12

#### Agenda title

REPORT OF A CONVICTION RECEIVED THE HOLDER OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE – MAG

#### **Finding of Fact**

MAG was found guilty of Possessing with intent to supply a controlled drug Class B at Bristol Crown Court on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

#### **Decision**

That the Private Hire Driver's Licence held by MAG be revoked pursuant to section 61 LG(MP) A 1976..

That should an application for another licence be received from MAG within two months of the date of the revocation the application be referred to the Committee for determination. Members also decided that MAG should be exempt from the requirement to take tests that he would not have had to take if his license was renewed without a gap.

#### **Reasons for Decision**

Members considered very carefully all of the written and verbal evidence presented to them.

They noted the circumstances of the offence and also the presentation of his case made by MAG's wife. They agreed to set aside their Policy and make an exception to it in this case.

They decided that the Private Hire Driver's Licence held by MAG be revoked and that should an application for another licence be received from MAG within two months of the date of the revocation the application be referred to the Committee for determination.

Chair's Signature		

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE B HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2013 AT 10.00 AM

PSP 45.7/13 Agenda Item No: 14

#### Agenda title

REPORT OF THE CONVICTION OF A PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER - AB

#### **Finding of Fact**

AB was convicted of unlawful plying for hire and no insurance by Bristol Magistrates on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

#### **Decision**

That the Private Hire Driver's Licence held by AB be suspended for a period of three months pursuant to s.61 LG(MP) A 1976.

#### **Reasons for Decision**

Members considered very carefully all of the written and verbal evidence presented to them.

Members of the Sub-Committee were mindful of their overriding responsibility to protect members of the public and therefore the Council was entitled to expect high standards of conduct from those whom it licensed.

Members considered the offences of having no insurance and driving a hackney carriage vehicle without a licence which in accordance with the Council's policy are classed as a major traffic offence and more than conviction for this type of offence within the last 5 years is likely to merit refusal. The members took into consideration that AB pleaded guilty to the offences and was fined and given six penalty points. Driving without a Licence and having no insurance were considered to be serious offences when deciding whether the applicant is to be treated as a fit and proper person to hold a licence and when considering the impact of such conduct on an existing licence. AB had clearly put members of the public at risk through not having the required insurance and the Members took a grave view of such offences and had a responsibility to ensure the safety of the public.

Members were mindful of the responsibility it was charged with to protect members of the public and the interests of those drivers who are lawfully entitled to ply for hire.

The Members took into consideration that AB had a family to support and was struggling financially. However, the Members were mindful of the responsibility it was charged with to protect members of the public.

Obviously, each case has to be decided on its own merits and the Members carefully considered the representations made by the applicant but decided on balance of probabilities that AB should not be treated as an exception to the Council's policy. The Applicant had not presented any exceptional circumstances for the Members to depart from the Council's policy.

The Members were not satisfied that AB was a fit and proper person to hold Private Hire Drivers Licence and decided unanimously to suspend his license for 3 months. The Members considered that the importance of deterring those drivers who unlawfully ply for hire thus preventing Hackney Carriage Drivers earning a legitimate income and putting members of the public at risk was a necessary and proportionate response in the circumstances.

They noted that this was his first offence and that he is remorseful. They therefore decided to suspend his licence for a period of three months.

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE B HELD ON 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2013 AT 10.00 AM

PSP 46.7/13 Agenda Item No: 15

#### Agenda title

REPORT OF THE CONVICTION OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER - RZI

#### **Finding of Fact**

RZI was convicted of carrying excess passengers by North Avon Magistrates on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

#### **Decision**

That no action be taken.

#### **Reasons for Decision**

Members considered very carefully all of the written and verbal evidence presented to them.

Members noted the circumstances of the offence and decided that no further action should be taken. It was clear to members that the circumstances were out of control for RZI and in any event the policy expectation was that this offence was to be treated as a minor offence and where such an offence is isolated then the policy provides that it should not be a bar to proceeding with an application.