

Present

Councillor Mrs I Sanderson (In the Chair)

Councillor P Bardon
Mrs B S Fortune

Councillor Mrs F M Greenwell
A Robinson

LHP.2 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT**

THE DECISION:

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the item of business at minute no LHP.3 on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as the Panel was satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

LHP.3 **CONDUCT OF LICENSED HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER**

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

The Director of Leisure and Health asked the Panel to consider whether to revoke a hackney carriage/private hire vehicle driver licence.

Alternative options considered:

The Panel considered whether any action needed to be taken and, if so, whether to revoke the hackney carriage/private hire driver's licences.

The reason for the decision:

The Panel considered the relevant representations of the parties, both written and oral, including the witness evidence, the Council's Vehicle and Driver Licensing Policy and the relevant legislation.

Taking account of the above and having given appropriate weight to the evidence the Panel reached the following conclusions:-

- (1) The Panel found there was consistency in the type and location of the incidents to which the complaints related and noted the driver admitted her recollection of the occurrence of some of those incidents. The Panel took note of the driver's representations and motivations in respect of her conduct. The Panel was satisfied the driver used offensive language during the four alleged incidents.

- (2) The Panel found the use of aggressive and offensive language was not acceptable conduct of a licensed taxi driver.

THE DECISION:

Taking all of the above into account the Panel decided to impose a sanction in the form of a four week suspension of the driver's licence.

The Panel decided to offer to reduce the suspension period by two weeks if a customer care and/or anger management course (which is to be approved by the Licensing Officer) is attended and a certificate confirming completion of the course is produced to the Licensing Officer. If the course certificate is produced within the first two weeks of the suspension period the final two weeks of the suspension period will be disapplied. If the course certificate is produced during the final two weeks of the suspension period the remainder of the suspension period will be disapplied.

The meeting closed at 10.55am.

Chairman of the Panel