

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**LOCAL GOVERNMENT LICENSING PANEL****MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21 OCTOBER 2010 AT 1007 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Hugh Ross, John McKay, John Campbell and Jim Roberts.

ATTENDING: David Mitchell, Head of Legal, Procurement and Regulatory Services; Stuart McCall, Legal and Procurement Services Manager; Richard Tickner, Enforcement Officer; Gillian Kuhn, Licensing Board Administrator; Leanne Thomson, Solicitor and Sharon McHarg, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Rose-Ann Cuninghame, Robert Keohone, Jim Buchanan, Gordon Cree, Neil McGhee, Barney Menzies and Elaine Dinwoodie.

CHAIR: Councillor Hugh Ross, Chair.

**REVIEW OF TAXI FARES AND ASSOCIATED CHARGES
(Item 1, Page 1185 07/12)**

1. There was submitted a report dated 13 October 2010 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support which (i) advised of a review of taxi fares and associated charges; (ii) informed that the Licensing Panel at it's meeting on 28 May 2010 had agreed to consult with the Taxi Trade Association to ascertain views on the proposed revised structures for all East Ayrshire; and (iii) invited the Panel to consider a request for a deputation by the Taxi Trade on their alternative proposal and thereafter proceed to fix an appropriate taxi fare structure.

The Panel agreed to receive the deputation from the Taxi Trade Association who then addressed the Panel. The deputation outlined the alternative proposals suggested by the Taxi Trade as detailed in paragraph 3.7 (C) of the report.

The Panel then agreed:-

- (i) to fix the scales for the taxi fares and associated charges set out in paragraph 3.7 (C) of the report being the alternative proposal by the Taxi Trade, as detailed below:-

FARES BY DISTANCE	CHARGE
Distance not exceeding 1760 yds	£2.75
For each additional 140 yds (or part thereof)	£0.15

SURCHARGES	CHARGE
For hires between Midnight and 0600 hours	£1.00
For hires accepted on 1 & 2 January and 25 & 26 December in each year	Double Fare
5, 6 and 7 seater taxis (for each passenger in excess of four)	£1.25 per passenger
Waiting time After initial period of 5 minutes – each period of 5 minutes (or part thereof)	£1.80
Taxi called by hirer and not used	£3.00
Radio call charge	£0.50
Fouling charge	£50.00

- (ii) to remit to the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support to carry out the further statutory procedures as detailed in paragraph 5 of the report; and
- (iii) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

2. The Panel resolved “That under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Schedule 7A of the Act”.

APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF A TAXI DRIVER’S LICENCE – JOHN CARR

3. There was submitted a report dated 11 October 2010 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support which invited the Panel to consider, by way of a hearing, an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence.

It was confirmed that Mr John Carr, the applicant and representatives from Strathclyde Police were all in attendance.

The Head of Legal Procurement and Regulatory Services outlined the agreed hearing procedure.

3.1 Hearing

The Panel heard Chief Inspector Dillon, representing Strathclyde Police, in explanation of the Police objections and the applicant, who spoke to all matters raised, all in accordance with the agreed hearing procedure.

The applicant and the Police representatives then left the meeting to enable the Panel to take and consider legal advice on the matter.

The parties were then re-admitted.

3.2 Decision

It was agreed that the application for the grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence be granted, subject to the standard conditions.

APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF A WINDOW CLEANER'S LICENCE (1 YEAR EMPLOYEE) – ALAN BURNS

4. There was submitted a report dated 6 October 2010 (circulated) by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Support which invited the Panel to consider, by way of a hearing, an application for the grant of a Window Cleaner's Licence (1 year employee).

It was confirmed that Alan Burns, the applicant and representatives from Strathclyde police were all in attendance.

The Head of Legal Procurement and Regulatory Services outlined the agreed hearing procedure.

4.1 Hearing

The Panel heard Chief Inspector Dillon, representing Strathclyde Police, in explanation of the Police observations and the applicant, who spoke to all matters raised, all in accordance with the agreed hearing procedure.

The applicant and the Police representatives then left the meeting to enable the Panel to take and consider legal advice on the matter.

The parties were then re-admitted.

4.2 Decision

It was agreed that the application for the grant of a Window Cleaner's Licence (1 year employee) be granted, subject to the standard conditions.

The meeting terminated at 1107 hours.