

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MINUTE REQUIRES TO BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING AND MAY BE AMENDED

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LICENSING PANEL

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2026
AT 1333 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS,
LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK/BY VIDEO CONFERENCE**

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: Councillors Jim McMahon, Caroline Barton, Graham Barton, Kevin McGregor, William Lennox, Billy Crawford, June Kyle and James Kyle.

OFFICERS PARTICIPATING: David Mitchell, Chief Governance Officer; Craig Young, Team Leader – Litigation and Advice; Carolyn McEwan, Licensing Standards Officer; Gillian Kuhn, Licensing Administrator; and Stuart Nelson, Democratic Services Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors David Richardson and Linda Mabon, and Provost Claire Leitch.

CHAIR: Councillor Jim McMahon, Chair.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. No declarations of interest or non-financial connections were intimated by the Members participating in relation to the items of business on the Agenda.

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”.

HEARING PROCEDURE

3. There was submitted (circulated) and noted, the Hearing Procedure to be followed in respect of the following item.

CONSIDERATION OF SUSPENSION OF TAXI DRIVER’S LICENCE

4. There was submitted a report dated 16 February 2026 (circulated) by the Chief Governance Officer which invited the Panel to consider, by way of a hearing, the suspension of a Taxi Driver’s Licence.

The Panel heard, in turn, from the Chief Governance Officer and Sergeant David Markin, Police Scotland, accompanied by Aileen Dempster, in further explanation of the reasons and circumstances relating to the request to suspend the taxi driver’s licence in this case.

The representatives of Police Scotland then withdrew from the meeting to enable the Panel to take and consider legal advice.

The representatives of Police Scotland then rejoined the meeting.

Having regard to all of the relevant circumstances as set out within the report and presented at the meeting, and the legal advice provided by the Chief Governance Officer, it was unanimously agreed:-

- (i) to suspend the Taxi Driver's Licence in question, with immediate effect, in terms of Paragraph 12(1) of Schedule 1 to the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Panel being of the view that the carrying on of the activity to which the licence relates by the licence holder would cause, or is likely to cause, a serious threat to public safety; and
- (ii) to consider, at a future meeting by way of a hearing, suspension of this Taxi Driver's licence in terms of Paragraph 11(2)(a) and/or (c) of Schedule 1 to the Act.

The meeting terminated at 1358 hours.