

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT LICENSING PANEL

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 14 OCTOBER 2004 AT 1134 HOURS
IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD,
KILMARNOCK**

PRESENT: Councillors Jim Raymond, Danny Coffey, Gordon Cree, John Weir, Harry Wilson, George Smith, Neil McGhee and Jimmy Carmichael.

ATTENDING: David Mitchell, Head of Administrative and Legal Services; John F Crawford, Head of Protective Services; Alison Smith, Licensing and Community Safety Manager; and Sharon McHarg, Administrative Officer.

APOLOGIES: Councillors William Menzies and Elaine Stewart.

CHAIR: Councillor Jim Raymond, Chair.

APPLICATION FOR A GRANT OF A TAXI DRIVERS LICENCE – JOHN SHAW

1. The Panel were advised that immediately prior to commencement of the meeting, the applicant had verbally advised the Council Officer and the Head of Protective Services that he wished to withdraw his application and would not be attending the Hearing.

It was noted that the applicant had withdrawn his application.

ADDITIONAL ITEM

2. The Chair at his discretion and in terms of Standing Order 19(iii) requested a brief discussion with Panel members in relation to the possible application of time limits to future Hearings.

FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HEARINGS

3. The Chair confirmed that the current hearing procedures allow the applicants and objectors unlimited time to speak and invited comments from Members.

Following discussion and having heard the Head of Administrative and Legal Services clarify the legal position, it was agreed:-

- (i) that the current procedure continue for the majority of hearings;
- (ii) that a Special meeting may be called where it was anticipated that a hearing would involve a high level of interest and participation;
- (iii) that in regard to time limits, each hearing be considered on an individual basis and that the Panel may agree, at the outset of any hearing, to impose time limits on applicants and objectors if deemed necessary in order to proceed in a reasonable and expeditious manner; and
- (iv) that the Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Head of Administrative and Legal Services, produce a guidance note on hearings for all future applicants and objectors.

The meeting terminated at 1150 hours.