

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

**SPECIAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT LICENSING PANEL
10 DECEMBER 2001**

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT OF TAXI OPERATORS LICENCES

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To invite the Panel to consider three applications for the grant of the Taxi Operators Licences in the South Zone by way of a Hearing.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Licensing Panel, at the meeting held on 31 October 2001, agreed to continue consideration of the applications in order that the applicants might be invited to attend a Hearing on the matter.
- 2.2 A copy of the report by the Director of Community Services dated 9 October 2001 is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The Licensing Panel, at the meeting held on 31 October 2001, agreed to increase the maximum number of Taxi Operators Licences available in the South Zone from 18 to 19.
- 3.2 As a result of two taxi operator's licences having expired on 31 July 2001, there are currently 17 licensed taxis operating in the South Zone.
- 3.3 The Panel should now consider each of the three applications for grant of licence by way of a Hearing.
- 3.4 The applicants have been invited to attend the meeting and have been provided with a copy of this report.
- 3.5 Both applicants and/or their representatives have intimated that they will be present and wish to be heard.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

- 4.1 Nil.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 In terms of Section 10(3) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, without prejudice to Paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the Act, a licensing authority shall refuse an application to grant a taxi licence if, in their opinion, granting it would have an adverse effect on the general availability to the public in their area of the services of taxis or the cost of providing these services.
- 5.2 In terms of Paragraph 5 of Schedule 1 to the Act, a licensing authority shall refuse to grant or renew a licence if the applicant is not a fit and proper person to be the holder of a licence.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Nil.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 Applications for the grant of taxi operators licences have been submitted by James McGhee, Woodpark, Glaisnock Road, Cumnock (2) and Mary Burns, 17 Glaisnock Street, Cumnock (1).
- 7.2 No objections or representations have been received in respect of any of the applications.
- 7.3 The Panel, taking into account the decision of 31 October 2001 to increase the number of Taxi Operators Licences available in the South Zone to 19, should now consider each of the above applications for grant of licence by way of a Hearing.
- 7.4 Two taxi operators licences expired on 31 July 2001, and there are currently 17 licensed taxis operating in the South Zone, allowing the Panel to grant a maximum of two additional licences at this time.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Panel consider each of the applications for grant of a Taxi Operator's Licence, by way of a Hearing.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services

27 November 2001

WS/GS

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Application forms (2) submitted by James McGhee, signed and received on 30 August 2001.
2. Application form submitted by Mary Burns, signed and received on 4 October and competent from 8 October 2001.

Any person wishing to inspect of the background papers listed above should telephone 01563 576111 and ask for Mr John Crawford, Head of Protective Services or email at john.crawford@east-ayrshire.gov.uk.

AGENDA
