Minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee 1 May 2015

Present:

Councillor R.W. Sider (Chairman)

Councillors C.A. Bannister and A.C. Patterson

112/15 Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved that under Section 100a(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph of part 1 of schedule 12a of the Act indicated below.

Paragraph 1 - Information relating to any individual and on the basis that publication would not be in the public interest because information and documentation is personal and subject to an obligation of confidentiality.

113/15 Exempt report to determine whether Mr Gregory Hugo is a fit and proper person to hold a Hackney Carriage driver licence.

The Chairman introduced the councillors and officers present and asked the Council's solicitor to address the parties present.

The solicitor explained that following the immediate suspension of Mr Hugo's hackney carriage driver licence on 22 April, the Licensing Sub-Committee had convened with the intention of resolving the long-term future of Mr Hugo's licence. However, legislation ruled that a decision to suspend Mr Hugo's licence had already been made by the Council and the only proper legal, procedural course to follow would be for Mr Hugo to appeal this decision to the Magistrates' Court, if he so wished. The solicitor confirmed that it would not be procedurally correct for the Licensing Sub-Committee to consider and determine the matter before them.

In view of the time that had elapsed since Mr Hugo's licence was suspended, the solicitor confirmed that the Council would give Mr Hugo a period of 21 days from the date of this meeting to submit an appeal to the Magistrates' Court. If he chose not to do so, his licence would be expiring in any case on 23 May 2015 and a new application for a licence would come before a Licensing Sub-Committee for determination.

The Sub-Committee resolved to make no decision on the matter of Mr Gregory Hugo's Hackney Carriage driver licence.