

Decision Schedule



Taxi Licensing Panel

TO ALL MEMBERS OF NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL

Decision Schedule published on 4 May 2021

The Taxi Licensing Panel took the following decisions on 4 May 2021, which became effective immediately.

Councillors: J Hughes (Chair), Y Forsey, K Thomas

This document is available in welsh / Mae's ffurflen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

Part 2

Exempt or Confidential Items

The following items contain confidential or exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Reports and background papers relating to these decisions are therefore not for publication and are subject to the provisions of the Act as they relate to circulation to the press and public.

LIC PAN 04/21

Private Hire / Hackney Carriage Licenses

Decision

The Taxi Panel gave careful consideration to the respective applications, including all the evidence put before them by all parties concerned and the following decisions were made:-

1. Driver FMAO

The committee considered the evidence presented, and agreed that it was felt that driver FMAO should keep his licence, under the condition that he completes a pass plus course within three months.

The committee agreed to grant the licence upon production of a certification of pass of a 'Pass Plus Driving Qualification' within the next 3 months (4pm on 4th August 2021).

2. Driver GSS

The committee appreciated that the applicant had taken responsibility for his actions, and agreed not to suspend his licence, but offer a formal warning to the driver.

3. Driver VC

The committee discussed the case and gave due consideration to the issues arising.

This was a close decision. The committee wanted to make it clear to the applicant that it is expected for drivers to manage their paperwork and ensure that everything is in order. The committee agreed to grant the licence upon production of a certification of pass of a 'Pass Plus Driving Qualification' within the next 3 months (4pm on 4th August 2021). The committee also request that CCTV be installed in the car prior to the driver commencing his licence.

4. Driver MA

The committee discussed that viewing the CCTV footage had been very useful. The committee also discussed that it did appear that the applicant had completed a large number of journeys as a taxi driver, which suggested that he was very hard working. Councillors agreed that this was an inconclusive matter, as there was a discrepancy between the allegations made and what the applicant was claiming. The committee felt that they did not have conclusive information regarding the matter.

Based on the information provided, despite serious concerns raised by passengers, the evidence presented did not reach the threshold and was inconclusive. No complaints were made to the police in either case, or to the local authority regarding the second case. The committee did not see anything in the video evidence that corroborated the concerns. Based on the presentation this morning, the committee has decided to take no further action, but will take up MA's offer of a drug test. MA is aware that Newport City Council are prepared to carry out a random drug test over the next 12-month period. The committee retain the right to randomly drugs test the applicant over the next 12 months.