

## GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD –13 SEPTEMBER 2023

General Purposes BoardWednesday 13 September 2023 at 3pm

**Present:** Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Cassidy, Crowther, Curley, McCluskey, Quinn, Reynolds and Wilson.

**Chair:** Councillor Curley presided.

**In attendance:**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| David Keenan      | Solicitor (for Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services) |
| Anne Sinclair     | Legal Services Manager (Licensing, Litigation & Committees)            |
| Fiona Denver      | Senior Paralegal Licensing Officer                                     |
| Siobhan MacMaster | Solicitor  |
| Diane Sweeney     | Senior Committee Officer   |

**In attendance also:** Sergeant I Robertson (Police Scotland).

The meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Greenock with Councillors Brennan and McCluskey attending remotely.

**The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Board.**

**447 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 447**

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor Moran.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

**It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 6 of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.**

**448 Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence 448**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence which was granted, all as detailed in the private appendix.

**449 Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence 449**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence. This item was continued to a future meeting, all as detailed in the private appendix. There was no Member debate on this item of business.

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- 450 Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence 450**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence which was refused, all as detailed in the private appendix.
- 451 Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence 451**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence which was refused following a vote, all as detailed in the private appendix.
- Councillors Crowther and Wilson left the meeting at this juncture.
- 452 Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence 452**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services on an application for the grant of a Taxi Driver’s Licence which was refused, all as detailed in the private appendix.
- Following consideration of these items of business, the Board returned to public session.
- The Chair being of the opinion that the undernoted report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services was relevant, competent and urgent, moved its consideration in terms of the relevant Standing Order, due to the 1 October 2023 deadline for existing hosts and operators.**
- 453 Review of the Short-Term Lets Policy Statement 453**
- There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services (1) providing an update regarding the progress of the Council’s Short-Term Let Licencing Scheme, and (2) seeking approval of the Board to accept applications for Short-Term Lets in circumstances where planning permission has not yet been granted.
- Decided:**
- (1) that the update in relation to the Council’s Short-Term Let Licensing Scheme be noted;
- (2) that the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services be authorised to approve the commencement of the public consultation in relation to the Short-Term Let Policy Statement;
- (3) that the approach, as detailed at paragraph 4.1 of the report, be approved and that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services to make the necessary adjustment to the Council’s Short-Term Let Policy Statement and authorise offers in the Licensing Section to accept and register for consideration valid Short-Term Let applications pending an application for planning permission, if required; and
- (4) that the intention of officers to submit a further report to the Board providing an update in relation to the volume of applications received and any subsequent resourcing issues, be noted.