

**GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 13 MARCH 2024**

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**General Purposes Board**

**Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 3.15pm**

**Present:** Provost McKenzie, Councillors Armstrong, Brennan, Crowther, Jackson (for Cassidy), Moran, McCabe (for McCluskey), Reynolds and Wilson.

**Chair:** Councillor Moran presided.

**In attendance:**

David Keenan	Solicitor (for Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services)
Anne Sinclair	Legal Services Manager (Licensing, Litigation & Committees)
Fiona Denver	Senior Paralegal Licensing Officer
Emma Peacock	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 Reynolds and Wilson attending remotely.

The Board commenced at 3.15pm as connectivity and technical issues were experienced in the Chambers.

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

**135      Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest      135**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Cassidy, with Councillor Jackson substituting, Councillor McCluskey, with Councillor McCabe substituting, and Councillor Curley.

Councillor Reynolds declared an interest in Agenda Item 5 (Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence).

**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.**

**136      Application for Renewal of a Taxi Driver's Licence      136**

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

**137      Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver's Licence      137**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer

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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.

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

**138**

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. Councillor Reynolds declared an interest in this item and left the meeting, all as detailed in the Private Appendix.

Following consideration of the above items the Board returned to public session and Councillor Reynolds returned to the meeting.

**139 Review of the Short-Term Let Policy Statement**

**139**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal, Democratic, Digital & Customer Services (1) providing an update on the outcome of the public consultation exercise in relation to a review of the Council's Short-Term Let (STL) Policy Statement, and (2) requesting that the Board considers what revisals, if any, are to be made to the STL Policy Statement in light of the received responses to the consultation.

The Legal Services Manager (Licensing, Litigation & Committees) provided a verbal update to the figures provided at paragraph 6.3 of the report and advised as at the date of the meeting:

Applications received: 72

Applications granted: 15

Applications on hold awaiting this Policy review: 21

Applications to go before this Board in April following objections: 3

Applications due to be granted: 5

**Decided:**

(1) that the content of the report and the views expressed in response to the formal consultation exercise in relation to the review of the Council's STL Policy Statement be noted;

(2) that (a) the proposed amendments as shown as tracked changes in the STL Policy Statement at appendix 2 be approved, and (b) that the adoption of the amendments take effect from the date of this meeting, namely 13 March 2024; and

(3) that delegated authority be granted to the Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services to make such further changes as are deemed necessary.