GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD - 13 AUGUST 2008

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 13 August 2008 at 3 pm

Present: Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Dorrian, Fyfe, Grieve, MacLeod, McCallum, McIlwee, McKenzie, Moran and Rebecchi.

Chair: Councillor Ahlfeld presided.

In attendance: Mr H McNeilly (for Head of Legal & Administration).

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

508 Application for Taxi Licence: John Harvey

508

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration advising that Mr Harvey had omitted to make timeous application for his licence to be renewed before it expired but it had been dealt with using the procedure for the exercise of powers delegated to the Chief Executive for use between Committees and it had been agreed to authorise the grant of a taxi licence to Mr Harvey.

Noted

509 Application for Taxi Licence: John Hardie

509

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration advising that Mr Hardie had omitted to make timeous application for his licence to be renewed before it expired but it had been dealt with using the procedure for the exercise of powers delegated to the Chief Executive for use between Committees and it had been agreed to authorise the grant of a taxi licence to Mr Hardie.

Noted

510 Taxi Fares Review

510

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration advising of the outcome of the informal consultation process for the annual review of taxi fares, namely the proposals submitted by Lower Clyde Taxi Owners Association with comments from Officers on those proposals. The Board heard Mr McNeilly who summarised the contents of the report and the relative correspondence.

Councillor MacLeod moved that St Andrews Day be declared as a public holiday. As an amendment Councillor Rebecchi moved that St Andrews Day not be declared a public holiday. On a vote 3 Members voted for the motion and 8 Members for the amendment which was declared carried.

Decided: (1) that St Andrews Day not be declared a public holiday; and (2) that for the purpose of public consultation the Council's proposal for the review of taxi fares be an increase of 30p on all initial charges ("Flag Drops").

511 Age of Vehicles Licensed as Taxis/Private Hire Cars

511

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration requesting that the Board consider the Council's current policy of not having any age limit on vehicles licensed as taxis and private hire cars.

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Decided: that it be remitted to the Head of Legal & Administration to carry out a formal survey of stakeholders.

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 I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

512 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Alistair Grant

512

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on an application for a taxi driver's licence by Mr Alistair Grant following an objection by Mr Patrick McMahon and a representation by the Chief Constable. The Board heard Mr McMahon in support of his objection, Constable Gailey in support of the representation and Mr Grant and Ms J Aikman of Gordon Ritchie Solicitors in support of the application.

Councillor McKenzie left the meeting during this item.

Decided: that the application be granted.

513 Application for Taxi Licence: Arthur Cox

513

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on an application for a taxi licence by Mr Arthur Cox following an observation by the Chief Constable that the applicant is not a fit and proper person to hold such a licence by virtue of his previous convictions.

Decided: that the application be refused.

514 Application for Private Hire Car Licence: Sheila Douglas

514

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on an application for a private hire car licence by Ms Sheila Douglas following a representation by the Chief Constable. The Board heard Constable Gailey in support of the representation and Ms Douglas in support of her application.

Decided: that the application be granted.

515 Smoking Health & Social Care (Scotland) Act 2005 Request for Hearing: John Barr

515

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on a request for a hearing by Mr John Barr on his receipt of a fixed penalty notice.

Decided: that the hearing be continued to a further meeting of the Board to allow for delivery of notification of the hearing to Mr Barr.

516 Smoking Health & Social Care (Scotland) Act 2005 Request for Hearing: Robert Barr

516

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on a request for a hearing by Mr Robert Barr on his receipt of a fixed penalty notice.

Decided: that the hearing be continued to a further meeting of the Board to allow for delivery of notification of the hearing to Mr Barr.

517 Smoking Health & Social Care (Scotland) Act 2005 Request for Hearing: James Clifford

517

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There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on a request for a hearing by Mr James Clifford on his receipt of a fixed penalty notice.

Decided: that the fixed penalty notice not be withdrawn.

518 Smoking Health & Social Care (Scotland) Act 2005 Request for Hearing: Michael Broadley

518

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on a request for a hearing by Mr Michael Broadley on his receipt of a fixed penalty notice. The Board heard Mr S McKenzie and Mr C Thompson of Safer Communities and Mr Broadley.

Decided: that the hearing be continued to a further meeting of the Board to allow for the attendance of the other officer from Safer Communities who was responsible for the issue of the fixed penalty.