GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD - 11 FEBRUARY 2009

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 11 February 2009 at 3.00 pm

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

Chair: Councillor Ahlfeld presided.

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

Apologies: Councillor MacLeod.

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

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.

111 Informal Consultation Group

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration advising the Board of the responses to the proposal for an informal consultation group to consider matters relating to the licensing of taxis and private hire vehicles in Inverceyde.

Decided: that it be remitted to Mr McNeilly to report back to the Board on the establishment of a Taxi Licensing Forum.

112 Taxi Licences for Vehicles Specially Adapted for the Disabled: Clyde Cabs

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration which requested that the Board consider whether or not to require the surrender of the five taxi licences granted to Clyde Cabs, 9 Ashgrove Lane, Port Glasgow.

The Board heard Constable Gailey, Ms Carol McGoogan and Mr Peter Sweeney. Councillor McCallum moved (1) that Clyde Cabs not be required to surrender the five taxi licences previously granted; (2) that a business address and 24 hour land line be provided; and (3) that evidence of the use of all vehicles and all contracts be provided in 3 months for consideration by the Board.

As an amendment Councillor McKenzie moved that Clyde Cabs be required to surrender the five taxi licences previously granted. On a vote 3 Members voted for the amendment and 6 for the motion which was declared carried.

Decided:

(1) that Clyde Cabs not be required to surrender the five taxi licences previously granted;

(2) that a business address and 24 hour land line be provided; and

(3) that evidence of the use of all vehicles and all contracts be provided in 3 months for consideration by the Board.

113 Application for Renewal of Taxi Driver's Licence: Mr Ian McWhirter

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There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on an application for renewal of a taxi driver's licence. The Board was requested to consider whether or not the licence application should be refused on the grounds that Mr McWhirter is no longer a fit and proper person to hold such a licence by virtue of the conduct described in the report. The Board heard Mr John Cushnaghan of Safer Communities.

Councillor Rebecchi moved that the application be refused but the applicant could reapply after 6 months.

As an amendment Councillor Dorrian moved that the application be refused but the applicant could re-apply after 3 months, subject to payment of the outstanding fines. On a vote 3 Members voted for the motion and 5 for the amendment which was declared carried.

Decided: that the application be refused but the applicant could re-apply after 3 months subject to payment of the outstanding fines.

114 Application for Renewal of Taxi Driver's Licence: Mr Stephen Patrick Donnachie

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on an application for renewal of a taxi driver's licence by Mr Stephen Patrick Donnachie on receipt of an observation by the Chief Constable. The Board heard Constable Gailey and Mr Donnachie.

Councillor Moran moved that the application be granted. As an amendment Councillor Fyfe moved that the application be refused. On a vote 1 Member voted for the amendment and 7 for the motion which was declared carried. **Decided:** that the application be granted.

115 Application for Taxi Driver's Licence: Mr James Devenny

Councillor Moran declared a non financial interest by virtue of personal acquaintance with the applicant and left the meeting.

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on an application for a taxi driver's licence by Mr James Devenny. At its meeting on 14 January 2009 it had been agreed to continue the application pending the result of a further medical examination. Mr McNeilly advised the Board that a favourable medical report had now been received.

Decided: that the application be granted.

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