

**GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD - 9 DECEMBER 2009**

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**General Purposes Board**

**Wednesday 9 December 2009 at 3 pm**

**Present:** Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Dorrian, Fyfe, MacLeod, McKenzie and Rebecchi.

**Chair:** Councillor Ahlfeld presided.

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

**Apologies:** Councillor Grieve.

**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.**

**787      Application for Street Trader's Licence: Brian David Collins      787**

Councillor Brooks 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 Street Trader's Licence to operate a car wash facility within the car park at Hunters Place, Greenock following receipt of objections by Mrs Claire Wylie and the Head of Environmental Services (Roads) and concerns which were raised by Councillor Osborne, one of the Ward Councillors.

The Board heard Mr Gordon Leitch for the Head of Environmental Services (Roads) and Mr Collins' representative Mr Anthony Gordon.

**Decided:** that the application be refused on the grounds of unsuitable location and non-conformity with the Council's Road Development Guide.

Councillor Brooks returned to the meeting at the conclusion of this item.

**788      Application for Street Trader's Licence: Anthony James Gordon      788**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on an application for a Street Trader's Licence to operate a car wash facility within the car park at Hunters Place, Greenock following receipt of an objection by the Head of Environmental Services (Roads) and concerns which were raised by Councillor Osborne, one of the Ward Councillors.

The Board heard Mr Gordon Leitch on behalf of the Head of Environmental Services (Roads) and Mr Anthony Gordon.

**Decided:** that the application be refused on the grounds of unsuitable location and non-conformity with the Council's Road Development Guide.

**789      Application for Street Trader's Licence: Kamal Mohammed      789**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on an application for a Street Trader's Licence to operate a car wash facility within the car park at Hunters Place, Greenock following receipt of an objection by the Head of Environmental Services

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(Roads) and concerns which were raised by Councillor Osborne, one of the Ward Councillors.

The Board heard Mr Gordon Leitch on behalf of the Head of Environmental Services (Roads) and Mr Mohammed's representative Mr Anthony Gordon.

**Decided:** that the application be refused on the grounds of unsuitable location and non-conformity with the Council's Road Development Guide.

**790 Application for Taxi Licence: Arthur Cox**

**790**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on an application for taxi licence by Mr Arthur Cox. Mr Cox previously held a licence continuously from 20 June 2001 to 13 August 2008. On that date the Board had refused the renewal of his licence on the basis that he was no longer a fit and proper person to be the holder of a taxi licence.

At its meeting on 11 November 2009 the Board had noted the terms of a report by the Fraser of Allander Institute on the demand for taxis in Inverclyde. That report indicated that there was no significant unmet demand for taxis in Inverclyde. The Board had decided that it would have regard to that report in considering applications for taxi licences. The Board heard Mr Cox in support of his application.

**Decided:**

- (1) that the application be granted for six months; and
- (2) that should Mr Cox submit an application for renewal of the licence in six months he be required to submit his proposals for putting on a multi purpose vehicle to the Board.

**791 Application for Taxi Licence: Inverclyde Taxis Ltd**

**791**

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration on an application for taxi licence by Inverclyde Taxis Ltd. Inverclyde Taxis Ltd had indicated that they were applying for the taxi licence previously held by Mr Arthur Cox.

Ms Louise Chopra of Anderson Fyfe on behalf of Inverclyde Taxis Ltd submitted that it was not competent for the Board to consider the application on the grounds that the legislation provides that an application must be decided by the Board within a period of 6 months. As the application was not to be placed before the Board until the conclusion of the taxi demand survey, an application for extension of the time limit had been made to the Sheriff. Inverclyde Taxis Ltd had lodged opposition to that application and a hearing had been fixed for 12 January 2010. If the application for the extension of the time limit was not granted by the Sheriff, then Inverclyde Taxis Ltd's application for a taxi licence would be deemed to have been granted by the Board.

The Board adjourned at 4.10 pm to consider the submission and re-convened at 4.20 pm. The Board agreed to consider the application and heard Ms Chopra.

**Decided:** that the application be refused on the ground that the Board was satisfied that there is no significant demand for the services of taxis in Inverclyde which is unmet.

**792 Application for Taxi Licence: James Cannon**

**792**

Councillor Ahlfeld declared a non-financial interest by virtue of personal acquaintance with the applicant, vacated the Chair and left the meeting. Councillor McKenzie took the Chair.

There was submitted a report by the Head of Legal & Administration asking that the Board consider a request from Mr Cannon as holder of taxi licence No 232 to enter into a partnership with a suitable driver. The Board heard Mr Cannon in support of his request.

**Decided:** that the request be granted and Mr Cannon be permitted to enter into a partnership with a person to be approved by the Board.