

REGULATORY PANEL

Minutes of a Remote Webcast Meeting of
17 March 2022 at 10.00 a.m.

- Present:** Councillors Brian Connolly (Chair), Iain Campbell, Ian Cavana, Alec Clark, Ian Fitzsimmons, Mary Kilpatrick, Craig Mackay and Brian McGinley.
- Apology:** Councillor Margaret Toner due to connectivity issues.
- Attending:** M. Douglas, Team Leader (Licensing); D. Scobie, Civic Licensing Standards Officer; M. Wright, Fleet Inspector, Fleet Management; F. Maher, Committee Services Officer; C. Buchanan, Committee Services Officer and E. Moore, Clerical Assistant.

Chair's Remarks

The Chair took the sederunt, confirmed to Members the procedures to conduct this meeting and advised that the meeting was being broadcast live.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members of the Panel in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of [20 January 2022](#) (issued) were submitted and approved.

3. Update by Civic Licensing Standards Officer

The Civic Licensing Standards Officer advised

Taxi and Private Hire Driver Training started again in November 2021 since the pandemic.

Taxi and Private Hire Driver Training Courses are available from Ayrshire College. The next two dates are 25 and 28 April. These were now [advertised on Ayrshire College's web page](#)

All drivers that required training would be informed of this update from the college.

Taxi and Private Hire Driver and Operators Support Fund

The licensing staff had processed grants for Taxi and Private Hire Drivers and Operators – to date 430 grant applications had been processed and payments totalling approximately £400,000.00 had been paid.

4. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 - Licences

(a) Taxi Fare Review

There was submitted a [report](#) (issued) of 16 March 2022 by the Licencing Team Leader seeking approval to review metered fares for taxis and propose a new fare structure.

It was recommended that the Panel propose the maximum fares as detailed in Appendix 2 of the Report. The proposed fare structure would then be advertised in terms of Section 17 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. Anyone may then comment on the proposed fare structure, the Panel were subsequently obliged to consider any reasonable representations received. If no representations were received, delegated powers were requested to permit the Service Lead, Legal and Licensing to set the fare structure as proposed.

Decided: to propose the new fare structure which will now be advertised and to grant delegated authority to the Service Lead, Legal & Licensing to set the fare structure as proposed if no adverse representations are received.

(b) Taxi Driver

- (i) The Panel considered the proposed suspension of the licence currently held by Jamie Rennie.

Having noted that Mr Rennie had now undertaken the appropriate training course, the Panel.

Decided: to take no further action.

- (ii) The Panel considered the proposed suspension of the licence currently held by Colin Saxton.

Decided: to suspend the licence held by Colin Saxton for its unexpired portion as he had failed to undertake training as per the licence issued to him; and to grant delegated powers to the Service Lead - Legal and Licensing to reinstate this licence once proof of completion of the training course had been exhibited.

(c) Private Hire Vehicle Licence

- (i) The Panel heard from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer, the Fleet Officer and the licence holder in relation to the proposed suspension of the licence held by Palpinder Singh.

Decided: not to suspend the licence held by Palpinder Singh however, to vary the licence so that the vehicle was inspected by the Civic Licensing Standards Officer at 3 months and 9 months from the last date of inspection and to have an additional full test within 6 months.

- (ii) The Panel heard from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer, the Fleet Officer and the licence holder in relation to the proposed suspension of the licences held by Mariusz Czapowski .

Decided: not to suspend the licences held by Mariusz Czapowski. however, vehicle plate number 33 should have one additional test six months from the date of the last inspection.

(d) **Late Hours Catering**

Kinjal Food Limited and Kashabraj Bhandari, 36 Alloway Street, Ayr

The Panel heard from the Team Leader (Licensing) and from the licence holder, Keshabraj Bhandari, in relation to the application for hours from Monday to Sunday inclusive from 11.00 p.m. to 3.00 a.m.

Decided: to approve the above application.

The meeting ended at 11.02 am