AGENDA ITEM NO. X

A record of the meeting of the Taxi Licensing Sub-Committee held in the Council Chamber, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, on Wednesday 15TH April 2015 at 11:15am

PRESENT

Councillor Allen Alderson Councillor Sue Austen Councillor Lindsey Harris (Reserve Member) Councillor Andy Wright

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms Lydia Fenn – Licence Holder

OFFICERS

Lin Bagwell – Licensing Officer (Enforcement)

Maggie Camp – Solicitor

Liz Knox – Environmental Services Manager

Adrian Scaites-Stokes – Democratic Services Officer

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

It was resolved:

That Councillor Andy Wright be elected as Chairman for the duration of the Sub-Committee Hearing.

2. **INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited all present to introduce themselves.

The Licence Holder confirmed they had received the agenda papers prior to the meeting.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

4. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

That the press and public be excluded during the consideration of Item No 5 because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Categories 1,2 & 7 Part 1 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as Amended).

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976, PART II – REVIEW OF A JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE.

The Sub-Committee received a report, reference P237 previously circulated, that considered whether the Licence Holder was a fit and proper person to hold such licences.

The Licensing Officer (Enforcement) advised the Sub-Committee that it had to review the Licence Holder's joint licence to determine whether they were 'fit and proper' to hold those licences. The Sub-Committee were informed of the background to the matter.

Ms Fenn agreed that the report was accurate.

The Solicitor and Sub-Committee asked questions of clarification of the Licensing Officer (Enforcement).

The Chairman invited Ms Fenn to address the Sub-Committee. Ms Fenn advised the Sub-Committee of her view of the matters.

The Solicitor and Sub-Committee asked questions of clarification of the Licence Holder.

Ms Fenn concluded by making a further statement.

The Sub-Committee adjourned at this point, 11:36am.

The Sub-Committee reconvened at 11:56am.

The Chairman read out the decision of the Sub-Committee:

Decision and Reasons for Decision

In view of the sequence of events leading to this hearing, we are mindful to endorse the previous officer Written Warnings.

We will therefore be issuing a formal Written Warning which will remain on your file and will be referred to for any future breach of Council Licensing Conditions. Whilst we note Miss Lydia Fenn's significant failure to complete necessary paperwork, Members still consider you to be a fit and proper person to hold a Joint Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licence.

The Chairman also commented "I would personally add and impress on you the need to respond in writing to communications from the Council and to keep records whilst running your own taxi business".

You have the right to appeal this decision to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days of receipt of the decision letter.

The meeting concluded at 11:58am.