PUBLIC PROTECTION LICENSING COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Hybrid meeting held on 10th November 2026.

The meeting papers are available here.

The recording of the meeting is available here.

To view the presentation and subsequent discussion for any Part I agenda item, please click the hyperlink contained in its title below.

Present: Councillor P. Drake (Chair); Councillor J.M. Norman (Vice-Chair); B. Dodd, V.P. Driscoll, R. Fisher, C.P. Franks, E.J. Goodjohn, E. Goodjohn, W.A. Hennessy, M.J.G. Morgan, S.T. Wiliam and M.R. Wilkinson.

326 ANNOUNCEMENT –

Prior to the commencement of the business of the Committee, the Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer read the following statement: “May I remind everyone present that the meeting will be live streamed as well as recorded via the internet and this recording archived for future viewing”.

327 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from Councillors G. Bruce and N.B. Marshallsea.

328 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

Councillor M.R. Wilkinson declared an interest in Agenda Item No 5 – Fit and Proper Person Determination in Respect of a Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver, as they had a family member who had made representations. Councillor Wilkinson then left the meeting.

329 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2026 be approved as a correct record.

330 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC –

RESOLVED – T H A T under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Act, the relevant paragraphs of the Schedule being referred to in brackets after the minute heading.

331 FIT AND PROPER PERSON DETERMINATION IN RESPECT OF A HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER (DEH) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPHS 13 AND 14) –

The report was presented by the Senior Licensing Officer. The Driver attended the meeting and provided representations in support of their case. The Licence Holder was asked to elaborate on details contained in the report. The report asked the Public Protection Licensing Committee to determine whether the Licence Holder remained a fit and proper person to hold a hackney carriage and private hire driver's licence, having regard to allegations of aggressive and unacceptable behaviour towards Vale of Glamorgan vehicle testing staff.

When addressing the Committee, the Licence Holder stated that he did not know that he was required to notify the Council of his undisclosed criminal caution, as the matter was not related to his driving. They stated that the incident had been reported to the Police. They stated that there had been no complaints regarding his conduct whilst undertaking his duties as a taxi driver.

In response to questions from Members, they confirmed that he had been a taxi driver for over ten years. They stated they did not report the arrest or caution because they had not been charged with an offence, the matter was domestic in nature, he had not appeared before a Court and had instead attended a course. He also referred to a previous incident involving a passenger making off without payment which had been reported to the Police.

When asked whether he regretted his behaviour towards staff at the Testing Centre, the Licence Holder denied being physically aggressive and stated that his concerns related to why the vehicle had previously passed with the same defect. He stated that everyone made mistakes and that he would not want to find himself in that situation again. Members noted that whilst the Taxi License Holder made those comments, he did not provide a direct apology to the members of staff concerned. After much debate amongst Members a decision was agreed and it was

RESOLVED – T H A T the Licence Holder should remain licensed, but that their Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver's Licence be suspended for four weeks.

Reason for decision

In reaching its decision, the Committee found that the Licence Holder should have notified the Licensing Department of matters relevant to their licensed status and was satisfied that, given their experience as a licensed driver, they were aware of their obligations. The Committee also considered the evidence regarding the Licence Holder's conduct towards Testing Centre staff and concluded that the behaviour had been unacceptable.

While the Committee did not consider the matters, either individually or collectively, sufficient to justify revocation, it was satisfied that a four-week suspension was a proportionate and appropriate sanction. The Committee also noted that the Licence Holder was unable to provide assurances that similar behaviour would not be repeated.