

**MINUTES of MEETING of PLANNING, PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE
held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD
on TUESDAY, 24 JANUARY 2012**

Present: Councillor Daniel Kelly (Chair)

Councillor Rory Colville	Councillor Roderick McCuish
Councillor Gordon Chalmers	Councillor Alex McNaughton
Councillor Neil Mackay	Councillor James McQueen
Councillor Donald MacMillan	Councillor Al Reay

Attending: Iain Jackson, Governance Officer
Peter Robertson, Legal Services Manager - Corporate
Graeme Forrester, Solicitor
Inspector David Armstrong, Strathclyde Police

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were intimated from Councillors Currie, Dance, Devon, Kinniburgh, Marshall and McAlister.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public for the following item of business on the grounds that it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 SUSPENSION HEARING - TAXI DRIVER LICENCE

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that the licence holder who had been invited to attend was not present. The Governance Officer read out a email which had been received from the licence holder's solicitors confirming that their client would not be attending the hearing.

Inspector Armstrong, on behalf of Strathclyde Police, spoke regarding the terms of their objection.

Given that the licence holder was not present to question the complainant or address the Members of the Committee and that Members of the Committee could not ask questions of the licence holder, they were invited to consider whether possible grounds for suspension had been established.

Decision

Agreed to suspend the licence holder's taxi driver licence with immediate effect for the unexpired period of the licence on the grounds that if the licence holder were to continue to drive a taxi it would cause, or would be likely to cause, a

serious threat to public safety.

(Reference: Report by Head of Governance and Law).