

LICENSING COMMITTEE

At a Special Meeting of the Licensing Committee held in the Council Chambers, Clydebank Town Hall, Dumbarton Road, Clydebank on Friday, 19 November 2004 at 11.05 a.m.

Present: Provost Alistair Macdonald and Councillors Dennis Brogan and Jack Duffy.

Attending: Nigel Ettles, Principal Solicitor, Kenneth MacLeod, Licensing Officer and Nuala Borthwick, Administrative Assistant.

Apologies: Councillors Denis Agnew, Linda McColl, Duncan McDonald and Connie O'Sullivan.

Councillor Jack Duffy in the Chair

TAXI ACCESSIBILITY IN THE DUMBARTON AND VALE OF LEVEN AREA

4220 With reference to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 3 November 2004, a further report was submitted by the Head of Legal and Administrative Services on the issue of taxi accessibility within the Dumbarton and Vale of Leven Taxi Licensing Zone.

4221 A wheelchair accessible model of the Fiat Doblo (Freedom) was on display outside the Council Chambers, Clydebank Town Hall on the morning of the meeting for Members' inspection.

4222 In this respect, Mr Alec Hazlet of Cab Direct was in attendance at the meeting to answer any questions in respect of the Fiat Doblo (Freedom) and the Ford Tourneo Connect for use as wheelchair accessible taxis.

4223 The Principal Solicitor was heard in further explanation of the background to the report. After discussion and having heard Mr Hazlet in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed:-

- (a) to approve the use of the Fiat Doblo (Freedom) and the Ford Tourneo Connect as wheelchair accessible taxis;
- (b) that the issue of wheelchair accessible taxis as detailed in paragraph 2.1 of the report to Committee on 3 November 2004 be continued to the Council meeting on Wednesday, 24 November 2004 if possible; and

- (c) to thank Mr Hazlet of Cab Direct for his very informative contribution to the meeting.

PRIVATE HIRE CAR LICENSING – APPROVED PASSENGER CARRYING CAPACITY

- 4224 With reference to the Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 3 November 2004, a report was resubmitted by the Head of Legal and Administrative Services concerning the possibility of increasing the approved maximum passenger carrying capacity for private hire cars licensed by this Authority.
- 4225 The Principal Solicitor was heard in further explanation of the background to the report.
- 4226 At the invitation of the Convener, Councillor Duffy, Mr Charles McKinley of Castle Cabs based in Castlegreen Street, Dumbarton was invited to come forward and address the Committee in relation to the matter.
- 4227 After discussion and having heard Mr McKinley of Castle Cabs and Mr Hazlet of Cab Direct in answer to Members' questions, the Committee agreed that the maximum passenger carrying capacity for private hire cars licensed by this Authority be increased to seven, subject to adequate provision remaining for the accommodation of luggage.

The meeting closed at 11.38 a.m.