CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL

Report to:- THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE REGULATORY

PANEL

Date of Meeting:- 20th January 2010 Agenda Item No:-

Public Operational Delegated Yes

Accompanying Comments and Statements	Required	Included
Cumbria Fire Service	No	No
Cumbria Constabulary	No	No
Environmental Services	No	No

RAYMOND EARL - HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER -

Title:- ADDITIONAL SPEEDING CONVICTION

Report of:- ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GOVERNANCE

Report reference:- GD 01/10

Summary:-

Mr Earl is a licensed Hackney Carriage Driver with this Council. He has recently informed the Council of a further speeding conviction.

Recommendation:-

To reach a decision from the options available, after hearing the evidence and any response from Mr Earl, in accordance with Section 61 (1) (b) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

J A Messenger Licensing Manager

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:- Driving licence, and Section 61 LG(MP) Act 1976

To the Chairman & Members of the Regulatory Panel on 20th of January 2010

NAME Raymond Earl

ADDRESS Webster Crescent, Carlisle

<u>AGE</u> 53

LICENSING HISTORY

According to Council records, Mr Earl was first granted a temporary licence by the Licensing Panel in 1994 after an earlier application to the Panel had been refused because of various motoring and criminal convictions. Shortly after being granted this temporary licence he received a speeding conviction and the Panel refused to renew his licence. Mr Earl appealed this decision to the Magistrates Court but his appeal was rejected. He further appealed the decision to the Crown Court and they re-instated his licence for a further temporary period to expire on the 31st January 1996

CONVICTIONS AND RELEVANT MATTERS SINCE BEING LICENSED

14/01/95	Speeding	Fixed Penalty & 3 pts
15/07/98	Speeding	Fixed Penalty & 3 pts
07/07/00	Speeding	Fixed Penalty & 3 pts
11/09/00	conviction a	efore the Licensing Panel because of the above speeding and his previous history since being licensed. His licence was for a period of 4 weeks.
29/05/02	outside of M turn by traffi driver. His I	efore the Licensing Panel because of illegal ranking ood nightclub in Botchergate, carrying out a dangerous 3 point c lights in Botchergate and his previous history whilst a licensed icence was suspended for a period of two weeks and he was undertake and pass the DSA taxi driving test.
25/06/02	Appealed th refused.	e above decision to the Magistrates Court and his appeal was
11/03/03	No Seat Bel	t Fined £50 with £35 costs
22/09/04	Speeding	Fixed Penalty & 3 pts
22/04/08	Using a Mol	oile Phone Whilst Driving Fixed Penalty & 3 pts
19/12/08		ixed Penalty & 3pts elling at 38mph in a 30mph limit whilst conveying a 15 year old ontract

25/02/09

As a result of the speeding offence of the 19th December 2008 Mr Earl appeared before the Council's Regulatory Panel. After considering the matter the Panel revoked his Hackney Carriage driver's licence as he was no longer considered to be a "fit and proper person" to hold such a licence.

07/05/09

Mr Earl appealed the decision of the Council to revoke his Hackney Carriage driver's licence to the Magistrates Court on the 7th of May 2009. The Magistrates instead imposed an 8 week suspension of his Hackney Carriage driver's licence and ordered him to retake and pass the DSA taxi driving test within 3 months. The Magistrates reasoning was that the Council had gone straight from written warnings to revocation without going through a suspension stage.

Mr Earl failed his DSA taxi driver test and therefore didn't get his licence returned at the end of his 8 week suspension. It was returned on the 14th of July after passing the test.

LATEST CONVICTION

16/12/09

Mr Earl has now notified the Council (**Appendix 1**) that on the 8th of December 2009 he received a Fixed Penalty Notice and 3 pts for speeding. He was travelling at 43mph in a 30mph limit in a taxi whilst conveying a child on a Social Services contract.

He now has 9 penalty points valid on his DLVA licence and this licence is currently at Swansea getting the latest conviction added. The most recent licence we have is attached as **Appendix 2**

LEGISLATION

Section 61 (1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, states that a District Council may suspend or revoke a Hackney Carriage Drivers Licence on a number of grounds.

Section 61 (1)(b) gives the ground of 'for any other reasonable cause' Appendix 3

OPTIONS

It is recommended that after hearing the evidence and any representations from Mr Earl, members reach a decision in line with the following options.

- 1 To take no further action.
- 2 To issue him with a letter of warning
- 3 To suspend his Hackney Carriage drivers licence for a period of time.
- 4 To revoke his Hackney Carriage drivers licence
- As well as or instead of the above, to require him to sit and pass a Driving Standards Agency Taxi Driving Test.

Prepared by B J Sharrock Licensing Officer

APPENDIX 1

Form I

CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL

DISCLOSURE OF ADDITIONAL CONVICTION

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Date of Offence	Date of Conviction	Offence	Court at which convicted	Sentence or Order of the Court or Fixed Penalty Notice
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Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 c. 57 Part II HACKNEY CARRIAGES AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

This version in force from: March 16, 2007 to present

(version 3 of 3)

61.— Suspension and revocation of drivers' licences.

- (1) Notwithstanding anything in the Act of 1847 or in this Part of this Act, a district council may suspend or revoke or (on application therefor under section 46 of the Act of 1847 or section 51 of this Act, as the case may be) refuse to renew the licence of a driver of a hackney carriage or a private hire vehicle on any of the following grounds:—
 - (a) that he has since the grant of the licence—
 - (i) been convicted of an offence involving dishonesty, indecency or violence; or
 - (ii) been convicted of an offence under or has failed to comply with the provisions of the Act of 1847 or of this Part of this Act; or



(b) any other reasonable cause.

(2)

- (a) Where a district council suspend, revoke or refuse to renew any licence under this section they shall give to the driver notice of the grounds on which the licence has been suspended or revoked or on which they have refused to renew such licence within fourteen days of such suspension, revocation or refusal and the driver shall on demand return to the district council the driver's badge issued to him in accordance with section 54 of this Act.
- (b) If any person without reasonable excuse contravenes the provisions of this section he shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 1 on the standard scale.
- (2A) Subject to subsection (2B) of this section, a suspension or revocation of the licence of a driver under this section takes effect at the end of the period of 21 days beginning with the day on which notice is given to the driver under subsection (2)(a) of this section.
- (2B) If it appears that the interests of public safety require the suspension or revocation of the licence to have immediate effect, and the notice given to the driver under subsection (2)(a) of this section includes a statement that that is so and an explanation why, the suspension or revocation takes effect when the notice is given to the driver.
- (3) Any driver aggrieved by a decision of a district council under[subsection (1) of]¹ this section may appeal to a magistrates' court.

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^{1.} words inserted by Road Safety Act 2006 c. 49 s. 52(3)