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## GENERAL LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE, 29.01.14

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**Present:** Councillor Eryl Jones-Williams, Councillors Angela Russell, Louise Hughes

**Also Present:** Geraint Brython Edwards (Solicitor), Gwenan Williams (Licensing Manager) and Lowri Haf Evans (Member Support and Scrutiny Officer).

### 1. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declarations of personal interest were received from any members present.

### 2. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

**RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following items because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 12 and 13, Part 4, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. These paragraphs apply because the individuals in question are entitled to privacy and there is no overriding public interest that requires the disclosure of personal information relating to those individuals, nor their identities. Consequently, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

### 3. AN APPLICATION FROM MR. A FOR A HACKNEY/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE

The Licensing Manager submitted the written report on the application received from Mr A for a hackney/private hire driver's licence. It was explained that a statement of convictions referred to relevant crimes. It was highlighted that the applicant could not attend the meeting and that the implications of not attending had been clearly explained to him. It was also noted that the Licensing Unit had received a letter supporting the applicant.

The Committee decided to consider the application in Mr A's absence. Disappointment was expressed that the applicant was not present to support his application.

Members of the Sub-committee discussed the application.

The Sub-committee took into account the Council's guidelines on convictions that were relevant to the application namely:

- *'A serious view will be taken of any convictions involving dishonesty.*
- *Generally, a period of at least three to five years free from conviction should be required before an application is considered.'*

Having considered the evidence in detail, the Sub-committee decided to refuse the application. Some of the convictions continued to be unspent and therefore it was premature to approve an application for a licence.

**RESOLVED** to refuse Mr A's application for a hackney/private hire driver's licence.

The Solicitor reported that he would aim to send out a letter notifying the applicant of the Sub-committee's decision.

The meeting commenced at 12.30pm and concluded at 12.55pm