

Minutes of: LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 11th December 2025

Present: Councillor T Rafiq (in the Chair)
Councillors A Booth, D Green, J Grimshaw, J Hook, B Ibrahim, D Quinn, I Rizvi and M Walsh

Also in attendance: C Ashworth- Democratic Services
M Bridge- Licensing Unit Manager
A Bucior- Head of Public Protection
M Cunliffe – Democratic Services
D Rice– Legal Advisor
B Thomson- Assistant Director Public Protection & Resilience

Public Attendance: No members of the public were present at the meeting.

LSP.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors R Brown and L McBriar. There was no substitute representative for Councillors R Brown and L McBriar.

LSP.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

LSP.3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Delegated decision:

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on the 6th November 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

LSP.4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions had been pre submitted to the meeting and no members of the public were in attendance at the meeting.

LSP.5 OPERATIONAL REPORT

The Executive Director (Operations) submitted a report advising Members on operational issues within the Licensing Service.

The report set out updates in respect of the following issues:-
The Licensing Service had dealt with a number of compliance and enforcement matters between the 27th October and the 30th November 2025.

LICENSING HEARINGS SUB- COMMITTEE

Following a request from Greater Manchester Police on the 11th November 2025 for a summary review of the premises licence for Overdraught, 28-30 Blackburn Street, Radcliffe, M26 1NQ. The Licensing Authority were obliged to hold a hearing within 48 hours of the receipt of the police application to consider whether interim steps should be imposed to promote the Licensing Objectives.

The Licensing Hearings Sub-Committee considered the application on the 13th November 2025. Members resolved to modify the conditions of the licence with immediate effect in order to promote the licensing objectives.

The Sub-Committee was therefore satisfied that there was sufficient evidence to mean immediate interim steps were necessary for amendments to the current premises licence under the licensing objectives recommended by GMP for the Prevention of Crime and Disorder.

Additional conditions to be implemented were contained within the report attached to the agenda pack.

The Full review of the premises licence was held on the 3rd December at 10.30am. An update of the decision made from this Licensing Hearings Sub-Committee was provided and the interim steps were to remain in place along with amendments to the licensing conditions.

IMMEDIATE SUSPENSIONS

The Licensing Service had immediately suspended a further 26 drivers for either not being registered on the update service or the certificate has changed since the last certificate has been issued.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

The Licensing Service had submitted two prosecutions files for illegally plying for hire, no insurance and one driver was unlicensed. These drivers were from another Licensing Authority within Greater Manchester.

The Licensing Service alongside the APHA (Animal and Plant Health Agency) visited a farm following a complaint regarding the welfare of Cattle. An improvement notice was issued by APHA. A revisit was undertaken on the 27th November and 5 improvement notices were served and a further update would be reported back at the next meeting.

A Member asked about the second testing station and it was reported that this had been awarded to Sunnybank with details on the length of contract provided.

A Member stated they had raised a complaint about cattle and enquired if a complainant would be notified if APHA visits and actions. The Licensing Unit Manager would speak to Officers and contact the Member in relation to this query.

Delegated decision:

It was agreed that the report be noted.

LSP.6 URGENT BUSINESS

No urgent business was reported at the meeting.

LSP.7 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Delegated decision:

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business

since it involved the likely disclosure of information relating to individuals who hold Licences granted by the Authority or Applicants for Licences provided by the Authority.

LSP.8

SUSPENSION / REVOCATION OF PUBLIC / PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCES

Licence Holder 13/2025

The Executive Director (Corporate Core) submitted a report relating to Licence Holder 13/2025, who was in attendance at the meeting alongside their legal representative.

The Chair made introductions and alongside the legal advisor outlined the procedure to be followed and clarified that all those present had read the report. The report, which was accepted by the Licence Holder and their legal representative was presented by the Licensing Unit Manager and set out the reasons for the Licence Holder being before the Committee.

The Licensing Unit Manager reported and presented background information to the Committee on this case.

The Council's legal advisor and a number of Members asked questions in relation to the case.

The driver was before members for consideration to be given as to his suitability to be a private hire driver in Bury.

Delegated decision:

The Committee carefully considered the report and oral representations by the Licence Holder and their legal representative.

Taking into account the Council's Conviction Policy and Guidelines and in accordance with the powers granted under Section 61(1)(b) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Committee resolved **to immediately revoke the licence**.

Given the overriding duty to protect the public, the **revocation** was to take **immediate effect**, as permitted under Section 61(2B) of the Act, which allows for immediate suspension where it appears to the authority that such action is necessary in the interests of public safety.

The driver was informed of their right to appeal this decision to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days of receiving written notification.

Licence Holder 14/2025

The Executive Director (Corporate Core) submitted a report relating to Licence Holder 14/2025 who was in attendance at the meeting. The Chair made introductions and alongside the legal advisor outlined the procedure to be followed and clarified that all those present had read the report. The report, which was accepted by the Licence Holder was presented by the Licensing Unit Manager and set out the reasons for him being before the Committee.

The Licensing Unit Manager reported and presented background information to the Committee on this case.

The Council's legal advisor and a number of Members asked questions in relation to the case.

The driver was before members for consideration to be given as to his suitability to be a private hire driver in Bury.

Delegated decision:

The Committee carefully considered the report and oral representations by the Licence Holder.

Taking into account the Council's Conviction Policy and Guidelines and in accordance with the powers granted under Section 61(1)(b) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Committee resolved **to immediately suspend the licence for a period of 6 months.**

Given the overriding duty to protect the public, the **suspension** was to take **immediate effect**, as permitted under Section 61(2B) of the Act, which allows for immediate suspension where it appears to the authority that such action is necessary in the interests of public safety.

The driver was informed of their right to appeal this decision to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days of receiving written notification.

Licence Holder 15/2025

The Executive Director (Corporate Core) submitted a report relating to Licence Holder 15/2025, who was in attendance at the meeting alongside a friend and representative. The Chair made introductions and alongside the legal advisor outlined the procedure to be followed and clarified that all those present had read the report. The report, which was accepted by the Licence Holder and representative was presented by the Licensing Unit Manager and set out the reasons for him being before the Committee.

The Licensing Unit Manager reported and presented background information to the Committee on this case.

The Council's legal advisor and a number of Members asked questions in relation to the case.

The driver was before members for consideration to be given as to his suitability to be a private hire driver in Bury.

Delegated decision:

The Committee carefully considered the report and oral representations by the Licence Holder and their representative.

Taking into account the Council's Conviction Policy and Guidelines and in accordance with the powers granted under Section 61(1)(b) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Committee resolved **to immediately suspend the licence for a period of 3 months.**

Given the overriding duty to protect the public, the **suspension** was to take **immediate effect**, as permitted under Section 61(2B) of the Act, which allows for immediate suspension where it appears to the authority that such action is necessary in the interests of public safety.

The driver was informed of their right to appeal this decision to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days of receiving written notification.

COUNCILLOR T RAFIQ
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 7.00pm and ended at 9.25pm)