



**MINUTES OF MEETING of the REGULATORY COMMITTEE held in the COUNCIL
CHAMBER on TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2026 at 9.30 AM**

PRESENT

Councillor Darren Lee (Chair)
Councillor Kenneth Earle (Via Teams)
Councillor Martha Benny
Councillor Phil Fairlie
Councillor Scott Harrison
Councillor Kathleen Martin (Via Teams)
Councillor Jane McTaggart

IN ATTENDANCE

Dale Bell, Solicitor, Legal and Governance (Depute Clerk to the Committee)
Sergeant David Bellingham, Police Scotland
Shaun Carrol, Licensing Paralegal
Paul Fair, Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO)
Lezli-Anne Sharp, Licensing Paralegal Administrator
Gillian White, Committee Services, Legal and Governance (Minutes)
Melanie Moore, Committee Services, Legal and Governance

RC(26)01 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Wendy Hamilton.

RC(26)02 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

RC(26)03 MINUTES OF REGULATORY COMMITTEE – 26 AUGUST 2025

The minutes of the meeting of the Regulatory Committee held on Tuesday 26 August 2025 were submitted for approval.

Decision

The minutes of the meeting of the Regulatory Committee held on Tuesday 26 August 2025 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

EXEMPT ITEMS

The Committee resolved in terms of Section 50A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973, that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as detailed in Schedule 7A, Part 1, Paragraphs 3 and 6.

The Applicants/Agents for Items 4 and 5, were not present. Having confirmed that they had received notice of the meeting, and that they had not arrived at Reception for the meeting, the Chair advised that he would take these items of business at the end of the meeting to give applicants/agents the opportunity to attend. The Chair moved on to Item 6 on the Agenda.

**RC(26)04 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF A TAXI DRIVER LICENCE
(C TASKER)**

The Licensing Authority had received an application for a grant of a Taxi Driver Licence from Mr Craig Tasker. Representations on the application had been received from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO) and Police Scotland.

Attending

Mr Craig Tasker (Applicant)
Mr Paul Fair, Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO)
Sergeant David Bellingham, Police Scotland

The Committee were asked to consider all the information before them and having done so to determine whether to grant the licence; grant the licence subject to additional conditions; or refuse the application.

The Committee heard a representation from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO) who advised the Committee of a small technical matter in that Mr Tasker had resided outwith the UK for a period exceeding 6 months. That box had not been ticked on the application form, but the CLSO recalled a conversation with the Applicant during the application process where Mr Tasker advised that he had stayed outwith the UK for longer than 6 months at one point. The CLSO advised that while the disclosure would not hinder the application process at the Committee today, Mr Tasker would require to submit a certificate of good conduct from that country of residence.

Mr Tasker confirmed that he had resided in Spain for 5 years, although he had returned to the UK regularly during that period. The CLSO advised that Mr Tasker should contact the Spanish Consulate for a Certificate of Good Conduct.

The Committee confirmed that they would continue to determine the licence including the additional information.

The Committee also heard representations from Police Scotland and Mr Tasker and had the opportunity to put questions to all parties.

Following questions, the Chair adjourned the meeting to consider the application (10.03 am). The Committee resumed at 10.11 am with 7 members present.

Motion

Having considered all the information presented to it and having had the opportunity for questions that the Committee grant the application for a Taxi Driver Licence with a condition that Mr Tasker provides a Certificate of Good Conduct from the Spanish Consulate within three months.

Moved by Councillor Darren Lee. Seconded by Councillor Phil Fairlie.

Decision

Having considered all the information presented to it and having had the opportunity for questions the Committee unanimously agreed to grant the application for a Taxi Driver Licence subject to a condition that Mr Tasker provides a Certificate of Good Conduct from the Spanish Consulate within three months.

Action

Depute Clerk to the Committee

Sergeant David Bellingham, Police Scotland, withdrew from the meeting at this point in the proceedings.

RC(26)05 APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF A TAXI/PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER LICENCE (G WARDLAW)

The Licensing Authority had received an application for a Taxi/Private Hire Car Driver Licence from Mr Greg Wardlaw. Representation on the application had been received from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO).

Attending

Mr Paul Fair, Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO)

Mr Greg Wardlaw, Applicant

Mr Keiran Ure, Applicant's Representative

The Committee were asked to consider all the information before them and having done so to determine whether to grant the licence; grant the licence subject to additional conditions; or refuse the application.

The Committee heard representation from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO), Mr Wardlaw and his representative Mr Ure and had the opportunity to put questions to all parties.

Following questions, the Chair adjourned the meeting to consider the application (10.21 am). The Committee resumed at 10.30 am with 7 members present.

Motion

Having considered all the information presented to it and having had the opportunity for questions that the Committee grants the application for a Taxi/Private Hire Car Drivers Licence.

Moved by Councillor Jane McTaggart. Seconded by Councillor Phil Fairlie.

Decision

Having considered all the information presented to it and having had the opportunity for questions, the Committee agreed unanimously to approve the application for a Taxi/Private Hire Car Drivers Licence.

Action

Depute Clerk to the Committee

Sergeant David Bellingham, Police Scotland, returned to the meeting at this point in the proceedings.

The Chair returned to Items 4 and 5 on the Agenda and confirmed that neither applicant was in attendance. The Chair sought the views of the Committee and those interested parties in attendance on whether these items of business should either be adjourned or heard in the absence of the applicants.

In terms of Item 4 (Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver Licence (A Duncan)), it was confirmed that all relevant information had been provided to Mr Duncan in advance and he was aware of the date of the meeting and could have provided written information to the Committee should he have been unable to attend. However, it was also recognised that should the matter be heard, the applicant would not have the opportunity to challenge any of the information provided to the Committee.

Having considered the views of the Committee and those interested parties in attendance, the Chair put the matter to the vote.

Voting on Item 4 – To adjourn or to hear the application for Grant of a Taxi Driver Licence (A Duncan)

To hear the application	6 votes
To adjourn the application	1 vote

On a division of 6 votes to 1, the Committee agreed to hear the Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver Licence for Mr A Duncan.

In terms of Item 5 (Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver Licence (M Parry)), it was confirmed that all relevant information had been provided to Mr Parry in advance. However, it was also recognised that should the matter be heard, the applicant would not have the opportunity to challenge any of the information provided to the Committee. The CLSO also advised that there was new information available pertaining to Mr Parry.

Having considered the views of the Committee and those interested parties in attendance, the Chair put the matter to the vote.

Voting on Item 5 – To adjourn or to hear the application for Grant of a Taxi Driver Licence (M Parry)

To hear the application	0 votes
To adjourn the application	7 votes

The Committee therefore agreed to adjourn consideration of the Application for Grant of a Taxi Driver Licence for Mr M Parry, to the next meeting of the Regulatory Committee.

RC(26)06 APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF A TAXI DRIVER LICENCE (A DUNCAN)

The Licensing Authority had received an application for a Taxi Driver Licence from Mr Andy Duncan. Representation on the application had been received from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO) and an objection had been received from Police Scotland.

Attending

Mr Paul Fair, Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO)
Sergeant David Bellingham, Police Scotland

The Committee were asked to consider all the information before them and having done so to determine whether to grant the licence; grant the licence subject to additional conditions; or refuse the application.

The Committee heard representation from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO), and the objection from Police Scotland and had the opportunity to put questions to both parties.

Following questions, the Chair adjourned the meeting to consider the application (11.04 am). The Committee resumed at 11.15 am with 7 members present.

Motion

Having considered all the information presented to it and having had the opportunity for questions that the Committee refuse to grant the application for a Taxi/Private Hire Car Drivers Licence as the applicant is considered not a fit and proper person to hold such a licence.

Moved by Councillor Phil Fairlie. Seconded by Councillor Jane McTaggart.

Decision

Having considered all the information presented to it and having had the opportunity for questions, the Committee agreed unanimously to refuse to grant the application for a Taxi/Private Hire Car Drivers Licence as the applicant is considered not a fit and proper person to hold such a licence.

Action

Depute Clerk to the Committee

NON EXEMPT ITEMS

The Chair advised that an item of urgent business “**Report seeking to amend the Taxi/PHC Operator Standard Conditions**” had been circulated to the Regulatory Committee. He advised that the report was not circulated as part of the agenda as the Equality and Fairer Scotland Impact Assessment had to be finalised. The Licensing team have received multiple applications for vehicles that are older than 5 years which meant that delaying a decision until after the next Regulatory Committee in May, could mean that Taxi Drivers will be losing out on business and potential income. He therefore confirmed that he would take this item as urgent business.

RC(26)07 REPORT SEEKING TO AMEND THE TAXI/PHC OPERATOR STANDARD CONDITIONS

The report, submitted by the Depute Clerk to the Regulatory Committee aimed to amend Condition 1.2 of the Taxi/PHC Operator standard licence conditions, which were approved by the Regulatory Committee on the 15th of May 2018. The Licensing Authority is committed to ensuring equitable access to transportation services. However, a reassessment of the existing conditions is necessary to meet the evolving needs of the Taxi/PHC trade.

The Committee took the opportunity to debate the most appropriate recommendation set out in the report.

Councillor Fairlie sought to amend the option set out in paragraph 2.2 of the report by the removal of the wording “**must be less than 10 years old**” and therefore set out the undernoted motion (as amended):

Motion (as amended)

That the Committee agree that the proposed amended Condition 1.2 of the Taxi/PHC Operator standard licence conditions as set out in recommendation 2.2 of the report is approved subject to the removal of the wording “**must be less than 10 years old**”).

The amended Condition 1.2 of the Taxi/PHC Operator standard licence conditions will therefore state that:

*“On the date for which an application for a taxi or private hire vehicle licence is received the vehicle, or any replacement vehicle, **must comply with the following Euro emission engine classification standards – the minimum required standard is:***

- ***Euro 4 for petrol cars and vans***
- ***Euro 6 for diesel cars and vans***”

Moved by Councillor Phil Fairlie. Seconded by Councillor Jane McTaggart.

Decision

The Committee unanimously agreed that the proposed amended Condition 1.2 of the Taxi/PHC Operator standard licence conditions as set out in recommendation 2.2 of the report is approved subject to the removal of the wording “**must be less than 10 years old**”).

The amended Condition 1.2 of the Taxi/PHC Operator standard licence conditions will therefore state that:

*“On the date for which an application for a taxi or private hire vehicle licence is received the vehicle, or any replacement vehicle, **must comply with the following Euro emission engine classification standards – the minimum required standard is:***

- ***Euro 4 for petrol cars and vans***
- ***Euro 6 for diesel cars and vans***”

Action

Depute Clerk to the Committee

Ends 11.52am