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THIS PAPER RELATES TO ITEM 3 ON THE AGENDA

MINUTES OF MEETING of the REGULATORY COMMITTEE held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER on TUESDAY 25 AUGUST 2026 at 9.30 AM

PRESENT

Councillor Darren Lee (Chair)
Councillor Martha Benny
Councillor Wendy Hamilton (Via Teams)
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 Sharlene Meldrum, Police Scotland
Paul Fair, Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO)
Lezli-Anne Sharp, Licensing Paralegal Administrator
Gillian White, Committee Services, Legal and Governance
Melanie Moore, Committee Services, Legal and Governance (Minutes)

RC(26)01 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Kenneth Earle and Councillor Phil Fairlie.

RC(26)02 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

RC(26)03 MINUTES OF REGULATORY COMMITTEE – 26 MAY 2026

The minutes of the meeting of the Regulatory Committee held on Tuesday 26 May 2026 were submitted for approval.

Decision

The minutes of the meeting of the Regulatory Committee held on Tuesday 26 May 2026 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.

RC(26)04 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF A TAXI / PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER LICENCE (R KEDRA)

The Licensing Authority had received an application for a grant of a Taxi / Private Hire Car Driver Licence from Mr Robert Kedra. Representations on the application had been received from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO) and Police Scotland.

Attending

Mr Paul Fair, Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO)
Sergeant Sharlene Meldrum, Police Scotland
Mr Robert Kedra, Applicant

The Committee heard representations from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO, Police Scotland and from the Applicant, Mr Robert Kedra. The Committee had the opportunity to put questions to all parties.

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.

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 / Private Hire Car Driver Licence.

Moved by Councillor Jane McTaggart. Seconded by Councillor Scott Harrison.

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 / Private Hire Car Driver Licence.

Action
Depute Clerk to the Committee

RC(26)05 HEARING TO CONSIDER THE LICENSES HELD BY EAMONN SWEENEY AND AAMONSE7ENS LIMITED AFTER IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF LICENCES ON 17 JULY 2026

The Clackmannanshire Council in exercise of its powers under Paragraph 12 of Schedule 1 to the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, on 17 July 2026 determined that the carrying on of the activities authorised by the licences held by Mr Sweeney (listed in Appendix A) was causing, or likely to cause, a serious threat to public order and public safety.

Accordingly, the Licensing Authority ordered that the listed taxi driver licence, private hire car licence, taxi operator's licence and taxi booking office were immediately suspended from 1500 hours on Friday 17 July 2026.

Attending
Mr Paul Fair, Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO)
Sergeant Sharlene Meldrum, Police Scotland
Mr Eamonn Sweeney, Licence Holder
Mr Robert Rodger, Support to Mr Sweeney

The Clerk reminded Committee members that in considering whether Mr Sweeney was a fit and proper person to hold these licences, they should only consider the information presented to them and that nothing else should be taken into account, particularly from external sources.

The Committee heard representation from Police Scotland which set out the detail of the letter from the Chief Superintendent submitted to the Senior Manager, Legal and Governance on 16 July 2026 which requested the immediate suspension of operator and driver licences held by Mr Sweeney and Taxi Booking Office held by Aamonse7ens Limited and the reasons for the request. Sergeant Medrum confirmed that the matter is still under investigation and as such could not give further information.

The Committee then heard representation from the Civic Licensing Standards Officer (CLSO) who shared the concerns raised by Police Scotland and set out the content of his written representation.

Mr Sweeney also made representation to the Committee setting out his mitigation for driving his vehicle on the day of the incident.

The Committee took the opportunity to ask questions of all parties.

The Committee were asked to consider all the information before them and having done so, in terms of Schedule 1, paragraph 11(1) decide whether or not to suspend or revoke the licences listed in Appendix A, in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 1, paragraphs 11(2).

Following a request from Councillor Benny to adjourn the meeting, the Chair advised that all of the Committee's discussions would take place in public unless specific legal advice was being sought.

Motion

Having considered all the information presented to it and having had the opportunity for questions that the Committee continues the suspension until the outcome of the Police Scotland investigation is known as Mr Sweeney is not a fit and proper person to hold a taxi driver licence, private hire car and taxi operator's licences and taxi booking office licence.

Moved by Councillor Jane McTaggart. Seconded by Councillor Martha Benny.

At the request of Councillor Scott Harrison, the Chair adjourned the meeting, to allow the Committee to take legal advice. The Committee adjourned at 10.27 am. The meeting re-convened at 10.38 am with six members present.

Amended Motion

Having recognised that a timeline for a suspension cannot be defined pending the outcome of the Police Scotland investigation, Councillor McTaggart amended her original motion that:

Having considered all the information presented to it and having had the opportunity for questions, that the Committee revoke all licences held by Mr Sweeney (as set out in Appendix A) as he is not a fit and proper person to hold a taxi driver licence, private hire car licence, taxi operator's licence and taxi booking office licence.

Moved by Councillor Jane McTaggart. Seconded by Councillor Scott Harrison.

Decision

Having considered all the information presented to it and having had the opportunity for questions, the Committee unanimously revoked all licences held by Mr Sweeney (as set out in Appendix A) as he is not a fit and proper person to hold a taxi driver licence, private hire car licence, taxi operator's licence and taxi booking office licence.

Action
Depute Clerk to the Committee

Ends 10.40 am