

The background of the slide features a large, light blue crest of the University of Alberta. The crest is a shield divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant shows a stylized building. The top-right quadrant shows a cross with a bird perched on it. The bottom-left quadrant shows a sailing ship on wavy lines representing water. The bottom-right quadrant shows a beaver. Above the shield is a crown with four maple leaves. Below the shield is a banner with the motto 'ANNE FOR A'.

# **Agenda Item**

**5**

**Knowledge Test Failure**

**Falkirk Council**

**Subject:** Knowledge test failure  
**Meeting:** Civic Licensing Committee  
**Date:** 14 June 2018  
**Author:** Chief Governance Officer

**1. Application for the grant of a new taxi driver licence**

- 1.1 Mr Mahmood submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 2 February 2018. His application must be considered before 1 November 2018. The applicant has failed to pass the knowledge test despite 4 attempts.
- 1.2 Mr Mahmood was invited to sit the test on 8 March and he attained 48%. Mr Arshad was then invited to attend on 22 March, however he advised that he was unable to attend.
- 1.3 Mr Mahmood was invited to sit the test on 4 April 2018 and attained 66%, he thereafter sat the test on 19 April and attained 47%. Mr Mahmood was given a fourth opportunity to sit the knowledge test on 9 May and he attained 56%
- 1.4 It is the view of officers that the applicant has little prospect or interest in passing the knowledge test and would recommend that the Committee consider refusing the application on the basis that he has not passed the knowledge test.
- 1.5 The applicant has not been invited to sit a medical as yet.
- 1.6 Mr Mahmood was notified in a letter of his failure to attend and that the matter would be considered by the Committee. The letter explained that he could submit a letter in support of his application which would form part of this report. Mr Mahmood submitted an email to the Licensing section on 4 June 2018 which is attached to the report as an appendix.

**2. Recommendation**

**It is recommended that Members consider the terms of the report.**

**The options available to the Members are:-**

**2.1**

- (a) to refuse to grant the TAXI DRIVER licence in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, Section 13 (5) on the ground that the applicant, having failed to pass the knowledge test, has failed to satisfy the Authority that he had adequate knowledge of the area to which the licence relates; the layout of roads in the area and of the Council's licence conditions; or

- (b) if Members are satisfied that there are other relevant circumstances that warrant a departure from policy, to instruct officers to arrange for the applicant to undertake a medical; and should he fail the medical to remit the matter back to Committee for consideration; should the applicant pass the medical, to authorise the Chief Governance Officer to grant the TAXI DRIVER licence.

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Chief Governance Officer

Date: 6 June 2018

Contact Officer: Bryan Douglas, Licensing Co-ordinator (telephone 501262)

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

**Douglas, Bryan**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 June 2018 11:32  
**To:** Douglas, Bryan  
**Subject:** [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Douglas,

Thank You for your letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> May regarding the possible outcome of my application for a taxi drivers license.

I am writing to see if there is any possibility for you to reconsider the suggested outcome. I appreciate that I have not achieved the marks required but I would like to explain the possible reasons why. I have always, since my school days had anxiety around test and exam conditions and feel that this is part of the reason that I don't do as well as I had hoped. I honestly believe that if you were to sit in the car with me I could take you the quickest routes. I just find that difficult to translate in writing.

Although I can't get a hackney taxi license could I be considered for a private license? I am a practical learner and honestly believe within the matter of a few months all these areas will become very familiar to me. I would be happy if considered , to work with restrictions from the council if need be if it means I am able to earn a licencr. I would be happy to retake the knowledge test again in s year if need be and am certain that I would achieve the marks required.

I'd really appreciate if you could reconsider your decision and look forward to hearing form you.

Kind regards

[REDACTED] Mahmood