

The background of the slide features a large, light blue crest of the University of Alaska. The crest is shield-shaped with a crown on top. The shield is divided into four quadrants: the top-left shows a building, the top-right shows a moose head, the bottom-left shows a sailing ship, and the bottom-right shows an eagle. A banner at the bottom of the shield contains the text 'A NE FOR A'.

Agenda Item 5

Knowledge Test Failures

Falkirk Council

Subject: Knowledge test failures
Meeting: Civic Licensing Committee
Date: 15 January 2020
Author: Chief Governance Officer

1. Applications for the grant of a new taxi driver licence

Mr Davidson

- 1.1 Mr Davidson submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 5 August 2019. His application must be considered before 4 May 2020. The applicant has so far failed to attend the knowledge test despite being invited on six occasions.
- 1.2 Mr Davidson was invited to sit the test on 5 September 2019 and failed to attend or advise that he was unable to attend. He was then invited to attend on 19 September and advised that he was unable to attend.
- 1.3 Further tests were arranged on 3 and 31 October, 14 and 28 November 2019 and he failed to attend or advise that he was unable to attend.
- 1.4 It is the view of officers that the applicant has little prospect 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 Davidson was notified in a letter of his failure to pass the knowledge test and that the matter would be considered by the Committee. The letter explained he could submit a letter in support of her application which would form part of this report. At the time of preparing this report no letter has been received.

Mr Fraser

- 1.7 Mr Fraser submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 7 October 2019. His application must be considered before 6 July 2020. The applicant has failed to pass the knowledge test despite four attempts.
- 1.8 Mr Fraser was invited to sit the test on 24 October 2019 and he attained 76%. He was then invited on 7 November 2019 and attained 80%.
- 1.9 Mr Fraser was invited to sit the test on 14 November 2019 and attained 74%.
- 1.10 Mr Fraser was then given a final opportunity to sit and pass the test on 28 November 2019 and attained 77%.

- 1.11 It is the view of officers that the applicant has little prospect 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.
- 1.12 The applicant has not been invited to sit a medical as yet.
- 1.13 Mr Fraser was notified in a letter of his failure to pass the knowledge test and that the matter would be considered by the Committee. The letter explained he could submit a letter in support of his application which would form part of this report. At the time of preparing this report no letter has been received.

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 licences in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, Section 13 (5) on the ground that the applicants, having failed to pass the knowledge test, have failed to satisfy the Authority that they 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) to give the applicants a final opportunity to take and pass the knowledge test, and should the applicants fail the knowledge test, to authorise the Chief Governance Officer to refuse the applications without further reference to Committee in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, Section 13 (5) on the ground that the applicants, having failed to pass the knowledge test, have failed to satisfy the Authority that they 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;**
- (c) if Members are satisfied that there are other relevant circumstances that warrant a departure from policy, to instruct officers to arrange for the applicants to undertake a medical; and should they fail the medical to remit the matter back to Committee for consideration; should the applicants pass the medical, to authorise the Chief Governance Officer to grant the TAXI DRIVER licences.**

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Chief Governance Officer
Date: 6 January 2020

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

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None