

The background of the slide features a large, light blue watermark of the University of Toronto crest. The crest is a shield divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant shows a building with a flag. The top-right quadrant shows a beaver with a cross on its back. The bottom-left quadrant shows a three-masted sailing ship on the water. The bottom-right quadrant shows an eagle with its wings spread. 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 Failures

Falkirk Council

Subject: Knowledge Test Failures
Meeting: Civic Licensing Committee
Date: 20 June 2017
Author: Chief Governance Officer

1. Applications for the grant of three new taxi driver licences

Mr Toye

- 1.1 Mr Luke Toye submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 24 January 2017. His application must be considered before 23 July 2017. The applicant was invited to sit the test on 2 February 2017. He did not turn up and he did not advise that he was unavailable.
- 1.2 Mr Toye sat the knowledge test on 9 February 2017 and attained 51% (the pass mark being 85%). Mr Toye was then invited to attend for the test on 23 February, 9 March and 23 March. He did not turn up and he did not advise that he was unavailable.
- 1.3 It is the view of officers that the applicant has little prospect of passing the knowledge test and would recommend that the Committee consider refusing the application on the basis that he has not sat and passed the knowledge test.
- 1.4 The applicant has not been invited to sit a medical as yet.
- 1.5 Mr Toye was notified in a letter of his failure and opportunities 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. At the time of finalising this report no letter has been received.

Mr Khan

- 1.6 Mr Naeem Khan submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 20 February 2017. His application must be considered before 19 August 2017. The applicant was invited to sit the test on 8 March 2017. He did not turn up and he did not advise that he was unavailable.
- 1.7 Mr Khan was subsequently given further opportunities to attend for the test on 15 and 29 March and 27 April. He did not turn up and he did not advise that he was unavailable.

- 1.8 It is the view of officers that the applicant has little interest in passing the knowledge test and would recommend that the Committee consider refusing the application on the basis that he has not sat and passed the knowledge test.
- 1.9 The applicant has not been invited to sit a medical as yet.
- 1.10 Mr Khan was notified in a letter of his failure to attend arranged knowledge tests 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. At the time of finalising this report no letter has been received.

Mr Matchett

- 1.11 Mr Anthony Matchett submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 24 February 2017. His application must be considered before 23 August 2017. The applicant was invited to sit the test on 16 March 2017 and confirmed he would be attending. He did not turn up and he did not advise that he was unavailable.
- 1.12 Mr Matchett was given a further opportunity to attend the test on 30 March. He contacted the offices on 29 March to advise he could not attend and would not be available until 17 April due to being out of the country. He was then invited to attend on 20 April. Mr Matchett contacted the offices on the morning of the test and advised that due to an interview he would be unable to attend and he requested that the test be rescheduled. He was then given further opportunities to attend for the test on 2, 11 and 26 May. He did not turn up and he did not advise that he was unavailable.
- 1.13 It is the view of officers that the applicant has little interest in passing the knowledge test and would recommend that the Committee consider refusing the application on the basis that he has not sat and passed the knowledge test.
- 1.14 The applicant has not been invited to sit a medical as yet.
- 1.15 Mr Matchett was notified in a letter of his failure to attend arranged knowledge tests 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. At the time of finalising 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 and the layout of roads in the area; 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 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: 9 June 2017

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None