

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: 27 September 2017
Author: Chief Governance Officer

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

- 1.1 Mr Alan Burns submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 28 April 2017. His application must be considered before 27 October 2017.
- 1.2 Mr Burns sat the knowledge test on 11 May 2017 and attained 52% (the pass mark being 85%). Mr Burns was invited via email to attend again for the test on 26 May. He advised via email on 25 May that he was unable to attend. Mr Burns was then invited to attend on 2 June and he telephoned on 31 May to say he couldn't attend due to the short notice given. He was then invited to attend on 29 June. He emailed on 29 June to advise that his mother had passed away and he was unable to attend.
- 1.3 The licensing offices then invited Mr Burns to attend for the test on 21 July and he confirmed his attendance via email on 13 July. He did not attend the test. Mr Burns was then contacted and invited to attend on 4 August. He didn't attend and subsequently advised the offices to say he never got the email inviting him. He was then written to with the letter sent via recorded delivery mail inviting him to attend on 17 August. He did not attend. He was given a further opportunity to attend on 30 August and failed to attend.
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 The applicant has not been invited to sit a medical as yet.
- 1.6 Mr Burns was notified of his failure and opportunities to attend and that the matter will be considered by the Committee. The letter explained that he could submit a letter in support of his application which would form part of the 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 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 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 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: 18 September 2017

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

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None