

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 cross with a chevron. The top-right quadrant shows a stag's head with antlers. The bottom-left quadrant shows a sailing ship on wavy lines. 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 Failures

Falkirk Council

Subject: Knowledge test failures
Meeting: Civic Licensing Committee
Date: 26 September 2018
Author: Chief Governance Officer

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

Mr Sloan

- 1.1 Mr Sloan submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 20 March 2018. His application must be considered before 19 December 2018. The applicant has failed to pass the knowledge test despite 3 attempts.
- 1.2 Mr Sloan was invited to sit the test on 5 April 2018 but was unable to attend. He was invited on 18 April and he attained 45%. He was then invited on 3 May 2018, however he advised that he was unable to attend.
- 1.3 Mr Sloan was invited to sit the test on 24 May 2018 and he attained 60%. He was then invited to attend on 6 June 2018, however he advised that he was unable to attend. He sat the test on 20 June and attained 45%
- 1.4 Mr Sloan was invited to sit the test on 5 July 2018 and he advised he was unable to attend. He was also invited to attend on 23 August and did not attend.
- 1.5 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.
- 1.6 The applicant has not been invited to sit a medical as yet.
- 1.7 Mr Sloan 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

Mr Campbell

- 1.8 Mr Campbell submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 3 April 2018. His application must be considered before 2 January 2019. The applicant has failed to pass the knowledge test despite 2 attempts.
- 1.9 Mr Campbell was invited to sit the test on 25 April 2018 but was unable to attend. He was invited on 10 May and he attained 73%. He was then invited on 24 May 2018 and he attained 74%.

- 1.10 Mr Campbell was invited to sit the test on 6 June and also 5 July 2018, however he advised that he was unable to attend on both occasions.
- 1.11 Mr Campbell was invited to sit the test on 3 and 22 August 2018 and he did not attend or advise that he was unable to attend.
- 1.12 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.
- 1.13 The applicant has not been invited to sit a medical as yet.
- 1.14 Mr Campbell 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

Mr Stawinoga

- 1.15 Mr Stawinoga submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 10 January 2018. His application must be considered before 9 October 2018. The applicant has failed to pass the knowledge test despite 1 attempt.
- 1.16 Mr Stawinoga was invited to sit the test on 25 January and attained 70%. He was then invited to attend on 7 February however he was unable to attend as he was sick. He was then invited on 22 February, however he advised that he was unable to attend as he had an interview.
- 1.17 Mr Stawinoga was invited to sit the test on 7 March, however he did not attend and claimed he did not get the email of invitation. He was then invited to attend on 29 March and 19 April and advised he was unable to attend. He was then invited to attend on 9 May and again claimed not to have received the email of invitation. He was then invited to sit the test on 24 May, however he advised that he was unable to attend.
- 1.18 Mr Stawinoga was then invited to sit the test on 6 and 28 June, 12 July, 3 and 16 August and he did not attend.
- 1.19 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.
- 1.20 The applicant has not been invited to sit a medical as yet.
- 1.21 Mr Stawinoga 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

Mr Keegan

- 1.22 Mr Keegan submitted an application for a new taxi driver licence on 23 February 2018. His application must be considered before 22 November 2018. The applicant has failed to pass the knowledge test despite 1 attempt.
- 1.23 Mr Keegan was invited to sit the test on 21 March and attained 63%. He was then invited to attend on 5 April however he was unable to attend. He was then invited on 18 April, however he failed to attend.
- 1.24 Mr Keegan was invited to sit the test on 3 May and then on 24 May and on both occasions he failed to attend. He was then invited to attend on 5 July and advised he was unable to attend. He was then invited to attend on 2 August and 16 August and he did not attend.
- 1.25 Mr Keegan was contacted via telephone and messages were left on his answer machine on 20, 23 and 24 August asking that he contact the licensing section. He has not made contact.
- 1.26 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.
- 1.27 The applicant has not been invited to sit a medical as yet.
- 1.28 Mr Keegan 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) 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: 18 September 2018

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

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None