

## 37011 PHV Licence Reviews

I have recently read an article describing the conduct of an Edinburgh Private Hire licence holder. The details have been widely reported in local newspapers and all details are in the public domain.

Mr Atif Amin of Muirhouse Park in Edinburgh caused criminal damage of £2,700 in Renfrewshire due to his belief that parking charges didn't apply to him. He vandalised a machine because he had to pay £4.00.

I assume that this is not the standard or type of behaviour required to hold a PHV licence.

As the reports are in the public domain I believe that a public interest applies.

What action to review a PHV licence would this type of behaviour result in? What review has taken place?

This request relates to Atif Amin who was reported in national news after having vandalised an NCP car park ticket machine causing £2,700 of damage in Glasgow. Mr Amin was acting in a private capacity dropping his mother off at Glasgow airport and caused the damage after parking attendants stating that the displayed Blue Badge did not exempt him from the parking charges. Mr Amin was ordered to pay £3,000.

In the article Mr Amin was identified as a "taxi driver" rather than a Private Hire Driver.

We have a dedicated officer that investigates complaints and concerns for Private Hire and Taxi Licence holders in conjunction with the Cab Inspector from Police Scotland. Police Scotland is a statutory consultee to the licensing process and comments on applications and monitors licence-holders for convictions. After investigation a report may be sent to the Licensing Sub-Committee for their consideration. Any such report to Committee is heard in private on the grounds that they would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3, 6, 12 and 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

The Committee has the power to suspend or revoke a licence or vary a licence to place additional conditions on the licence. The current status of any licence application can be found on our website at:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/download/13239/licensing-registers-civic>

(Licensing Registers Civic – The City of Edinburgh Council)

Regarding this particular case, the matter has been passed to Police Scotland. The dedicated Council officer does not take action whilst the Police are investigating.

Has any action been taken to revoke his licence? If not, why not?

As stated above, no action is taken by the Council whilst the Police investigate.

What criteria applies and what considerations take place before sanctions such as suspension, withdrawal or refusal of a PHV licence occurs?

The criteria for determining a licence application are set out in the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 ([legislation.gov.uk](http://legislation.gov.uk)) –

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1982/45/contents>

Please refer to Sections 10 to 23, and Schedule 1. Any decision of the Council under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 can be appealed to the Sheriff Court.