

Dispensation Decision

Date dispensation request considered by Monitoring Officer/ Chairman of Constitution and Ethics Committee and the Council's Independent Person	11 September 2024
Name of Councillor requesting dispensation:	Councillor Zameer Ali
Dispensation granted : Yes / No	Yes
The business of the council for which the dispensation has been given (if appropriate)	Dispensation to speak (but not vote) at the meeting of the Council's Licensing Committee on 12 September 2024 in relation to the proposal to introduce the mandatory use of CCTV in Hackney and Private Hire vehicles in Peterborough.
<p>Reasons for the decision</p> <p><i>(If granted, also specify on what grounds the decision was made, i.e. the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the authority's area)</i></p> <p>See extract from Localism Act below</p>	<p>It was considered appropriate (under s33 [2](c) and/or (e)) to grant a dispensation to speak (but not vote). Councillor Ali is the owner and operator of The Taxi Firm Ltd, which operates in the Peterborough area, and this is registered on his Register of Interests as a disclosable pecuniary interest.</p> <p>The proposal under consideration related to the introduction of the mandatory use of CCTV in Hackney and Private Hire vehicles in Peterborough.</p> <p>As a private hire operator in the city Councillor Ali is a representative of that trade's federation. However, under the Localism Act 2011 as he has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest due to his ownership of The Taxi Firm Ltd and he cannot participate in the discussion or vote unless he has obtained a dispensation to do so. Councillor Ali is not a member of the Council's Licensing Committee, he wished to speak on the proposals as his federation's representative.</p> <p>I considered it appropriate for Councillor Ali to be allowed to speak in fulfilment of his role as a representative for his trade's</p>

	federation but to make it clear that, due to the conflict of interest due to his pecuniary interest in the issue to be decided, he was engaging with the Committee in a private capacity and not as a member of Peterborough City Council.
Length of dispensation	For this meeting alone

Signed:  Dated: 18/09/2024

Monitoring Officer - Peterborough City Council

Extract from Localism Act 2011

33 Dispensations from section 31(4)

(1) A relevant authority may, on a written request made to the proper officer of the authority by a member or co-opted member of the authority, grant a dispensation relieving the member or co-opted member from either or both of the restrictions in section 31(4) in cases described in the dispensation.

(2) A relevant authority may grant a dispensation under this section only if, after having had regard to all relevant circumstances, the authority—

(a) considers that without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited by section 31(4) from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business,

(b) considers that without the dispensation the representation of different political groups on the body transacting any particular business would be so upset as to alter the likely outcome of any vote relating to the business,

(c) considers that granting the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the authority's area,

(d) if it is an authority to which Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000 applies and is operating executive arrangements, considers that without the dispensation each member of the authority's executive would be prohibited by section 31(4) from participating in any particular business to be transacted by the authority's executive, or

(e) considers that it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.

(3) A dispensation under this section must specify the period for which it has effect, and the period specified may not exceed four years.

(4) Section 31(4) does not apply in relation to anything done for the purpose of deciding whether to grant a dispensation under this section.