**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE**

**13 APRIL 2021**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR AND REGULATORY SERVICES**

**APPLICATION TO LICENCE PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE**

**1.      Purpose of report**

1.1      The purpose of this report is to ask the sub-committee to determine an application to grant a licence for a private hire vehicle.  This application  falls outside the age policy guidelines adopted by the Licensing Committee.

**2.      Connection to corporate well-being objectives/other corporate priorities**

2.1      This report relates to the Council's regulatory functions.  There is no direct link to the corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities.

**3.      Background**

3.1      It is the duty of the Local Authority to determine applications made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and Town Police Clauses Act 1847.  Applications which fall outside the policy guidelines are referred to a Licensing Sub-Committee for determination.

**4.      Current situation/proposal**

4.1      An application is made by Robin Leigh of Bridgend to licence an Audi A6 vehicle registration number UIG 7568 as a private hire vehicle to seat 4 persons.

4.2      The vehicle is pre-owned and was first registered at the DVLA on 29 September 2011 and the above is a private number plate.  The V5 Registration document, shows that Mr Leigh acquired the vehicle on 2 March 2021.  Mr Leigh was made aware of the age policy guidelines in place for the grant of vehicle licences and wishes to pursue the application.

4.3      The vehicle falls outside of the age policy guidelines for first licensing of vehicles set out in 4.5 below and does not fall into the category of a minibus wheelchair accessible fitted with a tail lift.

4.4      Mr Leigh has submitted supporting documentation which is attached at Appendix A.

4.5      The last MOT Certificate issued is attached at Appendix B.


4.6      Policy Guidelines

The following policy was approved by the Licensing Committee on 17 November 2020 and came into effect on 1 February 2021; this followed a request from the trade to relax the previous age policy guidelines.

From 1 February 2021, vehicles submitted for licensing for the first time must be less than 5 years old from the date of first registration; or first use/date of manufacture if the vehicle is imported, with the exception of minibus type vehicles fitted with permanent automated tail lifts which may be aged up to 10 years on first licensing."

The Council's licensing page includes the following advice.

"If you are in any doubt about whether a vehicle falls within policy guidelines please email us for advice before you make a financial commitment."

The policy guidelines apply equally to both hackney carriage and private hire vehicles.

**5.     Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

5.1     There is no effect upon the policy framework and procedure rules

**6.     Equality Impact Assessment**

6.1     This vehicle is not for wheelchair use.  There are no other implications in relation to age; disability; gender and transgender; race; religion or belief and non-belief; sexual orientation.

**7.     Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications**

7.1     The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

**8.     Financial implications**

8.1     There are no financial implications arising from this report for the local authority.

**9.     Recommendation**

9.1     The Sub-Committee is asked to determine the application having regard to the information contained within this report and any information provided by Mr Leigh.

**Kelly Watson**
**CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR AND REGULATORY SERVICES**

**Date   7 April 2021**

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**Background documents**

Private Hire Vehicle Application and supporting documents
Private Hire Vehicle Policy Guidelines