

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

2 JULY 2019

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES

APPLICATION TO LICENCE HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the sub-committee to consider an application to grant a licence for a wheelchair accessible hackney carriage vehicle.

2. Connection to corporate improvement objectives/other corporate priorities

- 2.1 There is no direct link to the Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority.

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 Application is made by Karl Svensen, to licence a Volkswagen Caddy vehicle registration number DX65 XJF as a hackney carriage vehicle to seat 5 persons persons. The vehicle is configured to take 4 passengers + 1 wheelchair.
- 4.2 The vehicle is pre-owned and was first registered at the DVLA on 30 November 2015.
- 4.3 The vehicle is wheelchair accessible but is outside the policy guidelines for the grant of applications under the Scheme of Delegation to Officers.
- 4.4 The Vehicle has been issued with an Individual Approval Certificate (IVA) as a Category M1 vehicle indicating the year of manufacture as 2014 and that the vehicle has been converted.
- 4.5 The application was accompanied by a MOT Pass Certificate (minor defects and advisories) indicating the mileage of the vehicle on 4 June 2019 as 79,543 miles. A further service schedule has been submitted undertaken on 3 June 2019 according to the manufacturer's recommendation and specification (fixed interval service).
- 4.6 Policy Guidelines

The vehicle policy applicable to this application was approved by the Licensing Committee on 10 March 2008. The relevant extract from the policy is as follows:

“(Policy 2.1) Applications for the first licensing of a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle should be submitted to the Council within 14 days of the first registration of the vehicle at the DVLA. The mileage at the time of application should be no greater than 500 miles. The applicant may be the second or a subsequent registered keeper but the applicant must demonstrate that there is no more than 14 days between the first registration and transfer to the applicant’s name. Applications will normally be dealt with under the Scheme of Delegation to Officers.

(Policy 2.2) Applications for the first licensing of vehicles falling outside the above policy guidelines will normally be refused but a relaxation of the policy may be considered in exceptional circumstances.

(Policy 2.2.3) In order to ensure that customers can hire taxis with the minimum delay and inconvenience, the policy may be relaxed to allow the licensing of wheelchair accessible hackney carriage or private hire vehicles up to three years old on application, provided that a full service history and safety certification, including a satisfactory conversion certification is provided with the application and the vehicle can satisfy the general licensing requirements. Applications of this type will normally be dealt with under the Scheme of Delegation to Officers.

(Policy 2.2.4) The licensee of any vehicle licensed under the Council’s special policy for wheelchair accessible vehicles must ensure that the vehicle is wheelchair accessible at all times and carry such ramps etc that are necessary. The maximum capacity of the vehicle will be specified in the licence and must include provision for at least one wheelchair.”

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 None

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 This vehicle is 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 None for the authority

9. Recommendation

9.1 The Sub-Committee is asked to determine the application having regard to the information contained within this report.

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HEAD OF LEGAL AND REGULATORY SERVICES

Date 26 June 2019

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Background documents

Hackney Carriage Application
Hackney Carriage Vehicle Policy Guidelines