

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

11 FEBRUARY 2020

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR 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 hackney carriage vehicle.

2. Connection to corporate improvement objectives/other corporate priorities

- 2.1 There is no direct link to the Corporate Plan / 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 Application is made by Lee Grabham of Pyle to licence a Skoda Rapid E saloon registration number YB63 APY as a hackney carriage vehicle to seat 4 persons. The application was accepted on 9 January 2020.
- 4.2 The vehicle was first registered at the DVLA on 18 December 2013.
- 4.4 For Members' information this vehicle was licensed as hackney carriage HC017 and the licence was due to expire on 18 December 2019. Mr Grabham has supplied a bill of sale to himself dated 6 December 2019 which is attached at Appendix A. Mr Grabham has provided written authorisation for certain documents to be disclosed as part of his application.
- 4.5 In terms of the hackney carriage licence, the proprietor notified the Council of the surrender of the licence on 13 December 2019. The licence therefore ceased to have effect on that date and this application is therefore for the grant of a hackney carriage vehicle licence.
- 4.6 The application falls outside the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Policy approved by the Licensing Committee. The vehicle is not wheelchair accessible.

- 4.7 The last vehicle test was undertaken by Fleet Services on 18 June 2019 with the mileage recorded at 159762. There were no notes or advisories in relation to the condition of the vehicle.
- 4.8 The applicant has stated that at the time of the sale the vehicle was in a poor state of cleanliness and disrepair and has submitted photographs stated to have been taken at the time of purchase. In addition he has submitted details of work undertaken on the vehicle at Appendix B.
- 4.9 Mr Grabham asks the Sub-Committee to consider the circumstances of the purchase, the improvement made to the condition of the vehicle, and for the Sub-Committee to consider a relaxation of the age policy under exceptional circumstances.
- 4.10 Mr Grabham has supplied a letter from KwikCabs which is attached at Appendix C.
- 4.11 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. The general guidelines for relaxation of the policy are as follows but each case will be dealt with on its merits:

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 None

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 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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CHIEF OFFICER – LEGAL, HR AND REGULATORY SERVICES

Date 5 February 2020

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Background documents

Hackney Carriage Vehicle Application
Hackney Carriage Vehicle Policy Guidelines