

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE A - FRIDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2025

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE A HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER - CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB ON FRIDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2025 AT 10:00

Present

Councillor M Lewis – Chairperson

A R Berrow

S J Bletsoe

O Clatworthy

Present Virtually

RJ Collins

J E Pratt

Officers:

Nimi Chandrasena
Kirsty Evans
Mark Galvin

Democratic Services Officer - Support
Senior Licensing Officer
Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees

83. Apologies for Absence

Decision Made	Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J. Llewellyn-Hopkins
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

84. Declarations of Interest

Decision Made	None.
---------------	-------

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE A - FRIDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2025

Date Decision Made	14 November 2025
--------------------	------------------

85. Approval of Minutes

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That the minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee A dated 9 September 2025, be approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

86. Grant Of a Hackney Carriage Vehicle License

Decision Made	The Licensing Team Manager presented a report, the purpose of which, was to ask Members to determine an application for the grant of a hackney carriage vehicle licence which falls outside of the Licensing Committee's age policy guidelines. The applicant Mr. J Bickerstaff was in attendance at the meeting. The applicant requested a hackney carriage vehicle licence for his Hyundai i40 Premium diesel ('Vehicle'). The Vehicle was aged 8 years 1 month, which is older than permitted by the sub-committee's policy. The applicant requested that due to the vehicles 'immaculate condition' despite its age, that the sub-committee departs from its policy in this case and considers granting a vehicle licence. The applicant provided a full-service history for the Vehicle, which is exhibited at Appendix B of the sub-committee report. The Vehicle had done 73,606 miles according to the MOT inspection, which was carried out 26 June 2025. The Chairperson then adjourned the meeting to inspect the vehicle at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend. They observed that the mileage was now 76,302. The members also observed the Vehicle was in good condition. The applicant had several licensed vehicles under his ownership and he confirmed that he purchased the vehicle to expand his fleet and was constrained by budget to a vehicle older than 5 years. He agreed to
---------------	---

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE A - FRIDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2025

	abide by the sub-committee's requirement for twice-yearly inspections for vehicles aged 5-10 years old, that fell outside the policy. With regards to the Licensing Vehicle Age Policy, on 17 November 2020, the Licensing Committee adopted age requirements for vehicles to be licenced as hackney carriages or for private hire. The relevant parts of the policy were detailed in the report. The sub-committee had regard to intention behind the policy, which is to promote a modern fleet of licensed vehicles and to ensure the safety of the public. Members then retired to consider the application further, whereupon on their return, it was <u>RESOLVED:</u> (1) The sub-committee unanimously decided to depart from its policy and grant the application subject to standard requirements for inspection for the following reasons: a. The Vehicle is in excellent condition. b. The applicant is an experienced taxi driver and operator of a taxi business, and he can be relied upon to abide by the inspection requirements for older vehicles. (2) For these reasons, the sub-committee decided to grant the application subject to its standard inspection requirements.
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

87. Grant Of a Private Hire Vehicle License

Decision Made	The Licensing Team Manager presented a report, the purpose of which, was to ask Members to determine an application for the grant of a private hire vehicle licence which falls outside of the Licensing Committee's age policy guidelines The applicant requests a hackney carriage licence for its Renault Traffic diesel with tail lift. The vehicle was aged 12 years 5 months. The vehicle was licensed but the licence had lapsed in March 2025.
---------------	--

	The sub-committee considered the report and noted that the applicant had provided the vehicles certificate under the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations, which was exhibited at Appendix C of the report. The sub-committee inspected the vehicle at the Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend. They observed that the mileage was now 80,010. The members observed the tail lift lowering and rising efficiently. The vehicle it was noted, was in very good condition. The vehicle was licensed until March 2025. The applicant did not receive postal notification for renewal, but it was able to continue using Vehicle A legally under an operator's licence, according to the applicant. The vehicle was used for school transport contracts with the local education authority. On 17 November 2020, the Licensing Committee adopted age requirements for vehicles to be licenced as hackney carriages or for private hire and the relevant parts of the policy were outlined in the report. The sub-committee had regard to the intention behind the policy, which was to promote a modern fleet of licensed vehicles and to ensure the safety of the public. Members then decided to retire to consider the matter further and following this, the sub-committee <u>RESOLVED:</u> (1) The sub-committee unanimously decided to depart from its policy and grant the applications subject to standard requirements for inspection for the following reasons: a. The vehicle was in very good condition. There is a shortage of tail-lift vehicles in the county borough for wheelchair users. Provided the passenger number is increased from 3 (on the application form) to 4, to accommodate the wheelchair, the grant of a licence would mitigate this shortage. b. The applicant is an experienced operator of a taxi business and can be relied upon to abide by the inspection requirements for older people (2) For these reasons, the sub-committee agreed to grant the application subject to its standard inspection requirements.
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

--	--

88. Grant Of a Private Hire Vehicle License

Decision Made	The Licensing Team Manager presented a report, the purpose of which, was to ask Members to determine an application for the grant of a private hire vehicle licence which falls outside of the Licensing Committee's age policy guidelines The applicant requests a hackney carriage licence for a Mercedes-Benz Vito diesel. The vehicle was aged 7 years and 8 months. The vehicle was licensed but the licence had lapsed in March 2025. The sub-committee inspected the Vehicle at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend. They observed that the mileage is now 150,699. The vehicle it was noted, was in good condition. The vehicle was licensed until March 2025. The engine had failed around that period and the applicant stated that he had difficulties procuring a replacement. He advised the local authority of this previously via telephone and was led to expect that an application for renewal could be submitted after the expiry of the licence (as opposed to making an application for a new licence). On 17 November 2020, the Licensing Committee adopted age requirements for vehicles to be licenced as hackney carriages or for private hire and the relevant parts of the policy were outlined in the report. The sub-committee had regard to the intention behind the policy, which was to promote a modern fleet of licensed vehicles and to ensure the safety of the public. Members then decided to retire to consider the matter further and following this, the sub-committee <u>RESOLVED:</u> (1) The sub-committee unanimously decided to depart from its policy and grant the applications subject to standard requirements for inspection for the following reasons: a. The vehicle was in good condition. There had seemed to have been some genuine confusion on the part of the applicant regarding when he should have submitted his application. Had the application for renewal of his licence been submitted on time, the application would not have come before the sub-committee.
---------------	---

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE A - FRIDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2025

	b. The applicant was an experienced operator of a taxi business and can be relied upon to abide by the inspection requirements for older vehicles. (2) For these reasons, the sub-committee agreed to grant the application subject to its standard inspection requirements.
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

89. Urgent Items

Decision Made	There were no urgent items.
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

90. Exclusion of the Public

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That the minutes and reports relating to the following items were not for publication as they contained exempt information as defined in Paragraph 12 of Part 4 and/or Paragraph 21 of Part 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation)(Wales) Order 2007. Following the application of the public interest test, the Sub-Committee resolved pursuant to the Act to consider these items in private, with the public being excluded from the meeting during such consideration.
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

91. Approval of Exempt Minutes

Decision Made	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That the exempt minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee A dated 9 September 2025, be approved as a true and accurate record.
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

92. Grant Of a Hackney Carriage And Private Hire Driver's License

Decision Made	This item was exempt.
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

93. Grant Of a Hackney Carriage And Private Hire Driver's License

Decision Made	This item was exempt.
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

94. Grant Of a Hackney Carriage And Private Hire Driver's License

Decision Made	This item was exempt.
Date Decision Made	14 November 2025

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE A - FRIDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 2025

To observe further debate that took place on the above items, please click the following links

[Part 1](#)

[Part 2](#)

[Part 3](#)

[Part 4](#)

[Part 5](#)

.