



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Registration and Licensing Committee

7th August 20223

Report of Head of Legal Services – Craig Griffiths

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected

All Wards

Application for the Grant of a Private Hire Vehicle licence

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider an application for the grant of a private hire vehicle licence where the vehicle does not meet the requirements of the Taxi Licensing Policy.

Executive Summary

2. This is an application for the grant of a private hire vehicle licence.
3. The Council has adopted a Taxi Licensing Policy, which outlines the specifications that vehicles have to meet prior to licensing.
4. The policy specifies that vehicles shall be fitted with 4 doors. The vehicle being considered has 3 doors.

5. The Registration and Licensing Committee are being asked to consider whether the vehicle is suitable to be licensed.

Background

6. The Council has adopted a Taxi Licensing Policy, which outlines the specifications that vehicles have to meet prior to licensing.
7. Appendix F – Private Hire Vehicle Specifications (condition 22) specifies that the vehicle shall be fitted with at least 4 doors.
8. The Council will use this policy as a basis for exercising its discretion when making decisions about licensing vehicles as private hire vehicles.

Officer Report

9. The applicant made enquires with the Council to establish if a Volkswagen Crafter would be suitable for licensing.
10. Following inspection of the vehicle it was established that it does not meet the current policy as it only has three doors.
11. An application was submitted on the 4th of July by A & M Private Hire Ltd. for the grant of a private hire vehicle licence.
12. The vehicle is quite unique, as it is possible to fit two wheelchair users in at the same time and this is primarily why A & M Ltd. wish to licence it.
13. The Council has adopted a Taxi Licensing Policy which sets out general requirements and standards that must be met by applicants.
14. Appendix 1 of this report includes photos of the vehicle.
15. The applicant has confirmed they will bring the vehicle to the Civic Centre should members wish to view the vehicle themselves.

Financial Impacts

16. No implications.

Integrated Impact Assessment

17. There is no requirement to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment.

Valleys Communities Impacts

18. No implications.

Workforce Impacts

19. No implications.

Legal Impacts

20. There is a right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court against a decision to refuse an application for a private hire vehicle licence.

Risk Management

21. There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

Consultation

22. There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

23. That members consider the above application after hearing all submissions.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

24. It is considered the matters reported should be determined by the Registration and Licensing Committee to establish if this private hire vehicle should be licensed.

Implementation of Decision:

25. The decision is proposed for immediate implementation.

Appendices

26. Appendix 1 – Photographs of Volkswagen Crafter

List of Background Papers

27. Vehicle Application
28. Neath Port Talbot CBC Taxi Licensing Policy

https://www.npt.gov.uk/media/4270/taxi_licensing_policy.pdf

Officer Contact

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