

WIRRAL COUNCIL

LICENSING PANEL

15 NOVEMBER 2013

SUBJECT:	PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE APPLICATION
WARD/S AFFECTED:	ALL
REPORT OF:	STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT
KEY DECISION?	NO

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider an application to renew a private hire vehicle license for a vehicle which is older than the current policy permits.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 On 22 May 2013 Members of the Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee resolved that:

- 1 The maximum age for a vehicle to be licensed as a private hire vehicle be ten years from the date of first registration or manufacture, whichever is the earlier and that this Policy is to have immediate effect.
- 2 The Licensing Panel be delegated with the authority to act outside this policy.

- 2.2 Private hire vehicle licences are issued on a twelve monthly basis, however once a vehicle reaches six years old, six monthly licences are issued until the vehicle reaches ten years old.

3.0 APPLICATION

- 3.1 The proprietor of the vehicle, Mr. Oates, has applied to renew his vehicle licence (No. 397) for a further six months. The vehicle in question is a Ford Galaxy Zetec TDI and bears the registration number OV03 NNE.
- 3.2 The vehicle has been licensed as a private hire vehicle since 2 August 2007 and the current licence expires on 20 November 2013.
- 3.3 The date of first registration of this vehicle is 21 May 2003 which makes the vehicle 10 years and 5 months old.

- 3.4 The Licensing Panel have previously considered this vehicle following applications made by Mr. Oates to grant further six month licences. The vehicle was considered at meetings held on 11 Nov 2011, 8 June 2012, 14 Dec 2012, and 10 May 2013. On each occasion the Licensing Panel saw fit to grant the licence. These applications were considered in accordance with the previous overage vehicle policy.. This is the first time the vehicle is being considered in accordance with the new policy which came into effect on 22 May 2013.
- 3.5 The vehicle has been examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations and has passed both the MOT and compliance test. The MOT certificate and compliance test pass certificate have been seen by the Licensing Section. They can be made available at the Licensing Panel should they be required.

4.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 4.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

5.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 There is no provision for other options to be considered.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 This is not a matter which requires consultation.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

- 7.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

- 8.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 A decision of this Panel can be subject to appeal.

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Has the potential impact of the proposal been reviewed with regard to equality?
- 10.2 No because there is no relevance to equality.

11.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are no specific carbon reduction implications arising from this report.

12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are Community Safety implications arising out of this report due to the safety aspects of private hire vehicles.

13.0 RECOMMENDATION

13.1 That the Panel consider whether or not to re-license this vehicle for a further six months.

14.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

14.1 It is a delegated function of this Panel to determine applications for Private Hire Vehicle Licences where the vehicle is over ten years old.

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REFERENCE MATERIAL

Private Hire Vehicle Licence application form
Compliance test pass certificate