

LICENSING PANEL**14 OCTOBER 2016**

REPORT TITLE	APPLICATION TO LICENSE A FORD TOURNEO ECLIPSE AS A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE
REPORT OF	ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Members to consider an application to license a Ford Tourneo Eclipse as a Private Hire Vehicle.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That Members consider whether or not to license the Ford Tourneo Eclipse as a Private Hire Vehicle.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 It is a delegated function of this Panel to determine matters relating to Private Hire Licences where officers do not have delegated authority.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

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

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The powers relating to the licensing of a vehicle as a Private Hire Vehicle are contained within the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 which provides that a licence shall not be granted unless the Council is satisfied that the vehicle is –
- suitable in type, size and design for use as a private hire vehicle;
 - not of such design and appearance as to lead any person to believe that the vehicle is a hackney carriage;
 - in a suitable mechanical condition;
 - safe; and
 - comfortable
- 3.2 The provisions within the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 allows the Council discretion as to whether to grant a licence as well as wide discretion over the type of vehicle that can be licensed.
- 3.3 Private Hire Vehicles come in different models and sizes and there is no normal or average vehicle. The first matter that must be considered is whether a vehicle is suitable in type, size and design for use as a Private Hire Vehicle. The current Council Policy for licensing Private Hire Vehicles in respect of this matter is as follows:
- (a) vehicles fitted with at least 4 doors and 4 wheels;
 - (b) must be right-hand drive vehicles;
 - (c) vehicles must be 10 years old or less from the date of first registration or manufacture, whichever is the earlier.

Once a vehicle reaches 6 years of age it will be required to be tested every six months and a six monthly licence will be issued.
 - (d) vehicles with adequate space for luggage within the car;

- (e) vehicles capable of carrying at least 4 and not more than 8 passengers in addition to the driver. The seating capacity of a vehicle will be determined as follows:-

The rear seating of the vehicle where fitted with bench seats – one person will be counted for each complete length of 15” measured in a straight line lengthwise along the front of the seat.

- 3.4 An application has been received from Shaun Marnell to license a Ford Tourneo Eclipse as a Private Hire Vehicle.
- 3.5 The vehicle is a conversion of a standard Ford Tourneo. This includes coloured lighting and the fitting of a table in the rear of the vehicle.
- 3.6 A vehicle will be available for inspection at the meeting and Mr Marnell will be present to answer any questions members may have.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 A decision of this Panel can be subject to legal challenge.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

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

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 There are none arising from this report.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 This is not a matter that requires consultation.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

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

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APPENDICES

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date