

**REGULATORY PANEL****11 JUNE 2021**

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>APPLICATION TO LICENSE THE DYNAMO NISSAN ELECTRIC TAXI AS A HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is for the Regulatory Panel to consider whether to license the Dynamo Nissan Electric Taxi as Hackney Carriage Vehicle.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

That the Regulatory Panel considers whether or not to license the Dynamo Nissan Electric Taxi as Hackney Carriage Vehicle.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1.1 It is a delegated function of this Panel to approve vehicles that can be licensed as Private Hire Vehicles.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 That consideration of the matter be delegated to officers.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The current criteria that a Hackney Carriage Vehicle must comply with before being granted a licence includes the following:

- (i) that every vehicle must comply with the Council's Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence conditions;
- (ii) that every vehicle must be purpose built and built to accommodate wheelchair disabled passengers;
- (iii) that every vehicle must be properly tested and roadworthy to a standard approved by the Council's vehicle inspectors, such testing to include the structural integrity;
- (iv) that all vehicles licensed must be properly insured and that proof of such insurance be shown to the Council either upon application or before issue of licence;
- (v) that every vehicle must be three years old or less from the date of first registration or date of manufacture (whichever is the earlier).

- 3.2 At the meeting of the Licensing, Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee on 25 November 2015 Members resolved that the consideration of applications for the approval of new makes and models of vehicles to be licensed as Hackney Carriage Vehicles be delegated to the Licensing Panel.

- 3.3 The vehicle has EC Vehicle Type Approval to M1 requirements and has been issued with a Vehicle Certification Agency (VCA) certificate. A copy of the certificate is attached at Appendix 1

- 3.4 Type Approval is a system for testing and approving motor vehicles and for controlling conformity of production to be consistent with the approved type. Under the type approval system category M1 relates to passenger carrying vehicles having no more than eight seats in addition to the driver's seat. UK law defines a taxi as an M1 vehicle.

- 3.5 The vehicle will be available for inspection at the meeting.

## **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

## **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Section 48 provides that a district council shall not grant a licence unless it 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
- That there is in force in relation to the use of the vehicle a policy of insurance

5.2 A decision of this Panel can be subject to appeal.

## **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 safety implications arising out of this report due to the safety aspects of hackney carriage vehicles.

## **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.

## **10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 Hackney Carriage Vehicles contribute to harmful emissions including particulate matter, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide which can be harmful to health.

10.2 Hybrid and electric cars emit less greenhouse gases and air pollutants than petrol and diesel cars. (*Source: European Environment Agency report 2018*)

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## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Vehicle brochure

**APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 - Vehicle Certification Agency certificate