

REGULATORY PANEL**17 SEPTEMBER 2021**

REPORT TITLE	SCHOOL CONTRACT PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE APPLICATION
REPORT OF	DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to consider an application to re-license an Peugeot Boxer Minibus, registration number WX61 BZD, beyond the normal over-age date for a licensed Private Hire Vehicle.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Panel considers whether or not to license the vehicle for six months.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

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

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 That the application to license the Peugeot Boxer Minibus be refused as the vehicle does not comply with the current criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles, in that it is more than 10 years old.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The current criteria that vehicles must comply with before being granted a School Contract Private Hire Vehicle Licence includes the following:
1. Vehicles must be under 10 years of age from the date of manufacture or date of first registration, whichever is the earliest.
 2. 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.
 3. Any vehicle which is more than 9 years and 6 months old will be issued with a licence that will expire on the day before it reaches 10 years old.
- 3.2 The proprietor of the vehicle, Merseycare Transport Services Ltd, has applied to license the vehicle for six months.
- 3.3 The vehicle will be used exclusively to transport children to and from educational establishments.
- 3.4 The vehicle has been licensed as a Private Hire Vehicle since 11 December 2018 until 7 September 2021 when the licence expired.
- 3.5 The date of first registration of this vehicle is 7 September 2011.
- 3.6 The vehicle has been examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations and the pass certificates will be provided in advance of the meeting.
- 3.7 The vehicle will be available for inspection at the meeting.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Section 48 of The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 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 private hire vehicles. The vehicle has been examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations and has passed the MOT and Compliance tests.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 This is not a matter that requires consultation.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 This vehicle would be used to transport children to school who have particular needs which may include, but is not limited to, children using wheelchairs.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

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

REPORT AUTHOR: Margaret Calvert
 Licensing Team Leader
 telephone: 0151 691 8476
 email: margaretcavert@wirral.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

MOT certificate

Compliance pass certificate