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REGULATORY PANEL

Wednesday, 22 December 2021

Present: Councillor A Hodson (Chair)

Councillors M Booth
D Mitchell

102 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Panel were asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non pecuniary interests in connection with any application on the agenda and state the nature of the interest.

No such declarations were made.

103 APPLICATION TO LICENSE THE TESLA MODEL-3 AS A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE

The Director of Law and Governance reported upon an application received to determine whether the Tesla Model-3 meets the Council's criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles.

In September 2017 Members of the Licensing, Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee approved criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles. The criteria were set out within Appendix 1 attached to the report and state that:

- Wirral Council must be satisfied that vehicles licensed as private hire vehicles are suitable in type, size and design for use as private hire vehicles, that it is in a suitable mechanical condition and is safe and comfortable.
- Although the criteria set out in this document may have been met, approval for the issuing of a licence may be withheld if the Licensing Authority is of the opinion that the vehicle is unsuitable for use as a private hire vehicle to transport members of the public for hire and reward.
- A vehicle that meets the criteria to be licensed as a private hire vehicle must have passed the MOT and Compliance Test in accordance with the Licensing Authority's procedure for testing vehicles before it can be licensed and before each renewal of that licence.

Members of the Regulatory Panel were asked to consider whether they were satisfied that the Tesla Model-3 complied with the Council's criteria for

licensing Private Hire Vehicles and whether it was a suitable vehicle to be licensed. Should this be the case Members were further asked to consider whether to license the Tesla Model-3, registration number MW71 DHF as a Private Hire Vehicle. The vehicle had been examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations and the pass certificate was available for Members.

The proprietor of the vehicle attended the meeting and Members of the Panel inspected the vehicle.

Resolved –

- (1) That the Tesla Model-3 meets the criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles.**
- (2) That the application to licence the Tesla Model-3, registration number MW71 DHF as a Private Hire Vehicle be granted subject to the following condition:**
 - A sign must be clearly displayed on the door handles of the vehicles to instruct passengers in the opening of the doors.**
- (3) The back seat must be measured prior to the issue of the Licence to ascertain if the vehicle should be licensed to carry 3 or 4 passengers.**

104 **APPLICATION TO LICENSE THE IONIQ 5 AS A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE**

The Director of Law and Governance reported upon an application received to determine whether the Hyundai Ioniq 5 meets the Council's criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles.

In September 2017 Members of the Licensing, Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee approved criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles. The criteria were set out within Appendix 1 attached to the report and state that:

- Wirral Council must be satisfied that vehicles licensed as private hire vehicles are suitable in type, size and design for use as private hire vehicles, that it is in a suitable mechanical condition and is safe and comfortable.
- Although the criteria set out in this document may have been met, approval for the issuing of a licence may be withheld if the Licensing Authority is of the opinion that the vehicle is unsuitable for use as a private hire vehicle to transport members of the public for hire and reward.

- A vehicle that meets the criteria to be licensed as a private hire vehicle must have passed the MOT and Compliance Test in accordance with the Licensing Authority's procedure for testing vehicles before it can be licensed and before each renewal of that licence.

Members of the Regulatory Panel were asked to consider whether they were satisfied that the Hyundai Ioniq 5 complied with the Council's criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles and whether it was a suitable vehicle to be licensed. Should this be the case Members were further asked to consider whether to license the Hyundai Ioniq 5, registration number KY71 THZ as a Private Hire Vehicle. The vehicle had been examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations and the pass certificate was available for Members.

The proprietor of the vehicle attended the meeting and Members of the Panel inspected the vehicle.

Resolved –

- (1) That the Hyundai Ioniq 5 meets the criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles.**
- (2) That the application to licence the Hyundai Ioniq 5, registration number KY71 THZ as a Private Hire Vehicle be granted subject to the following condition:**
 - **A sign must be clearly displayed on the door handles of the vehicles to instruct passengers in the opening of the doors.**

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