

REGULATORY PANEL**13 MAY 2022**

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

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for the Regulatory Panel to consider an application to license a Peugeot 508, registration number DG17 FSN, as a Private Hire Vehicle outside the current criteria which states that side and rear windows must allow at least 70% of light to be transmitted through.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Regulatory Panel consider whether to license the Peugeot 508, registration number DG17 FSN, as a Private Hire Vehicle outside the current criteria which states that side and rear windows must allow at least 70% of light to be transmitted through.

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 the application to license the Peugeot 508, registration number DG17 FSN, be refused as the vehicle does not comply with the current criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles in that the side and rear windows do not let at least 70% of light through.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 In September 2017 Members of the Licensing Health and Safety and General Purposes Committee approved criteria for licensing Private Hire Vehicles.

- 3.2 Paragraph 36 of the criteria states that:

The front windscreen must let at least 75% of light through and all other windows must let at least 70% of light through.

- 3.3 The date of first registration of the vehicle is 6 March 2017 and it is therefore four years old.

- 3.4 The applicant Mr Garside attended the Regulatory Panel on 22 February 2022 in support of his application to license the vehicle as a Private Hire Vehicle. The Panel resolved that the application be granted subject to the drop windows at the rear of the vehicle being replaced by glass that complies with the current criteria.

- 3.5 Mr Garside has contacted the Licensing Authority to advise that he has been unable to source glass for the drop windows that complies with the criteria and has requested that his application be further considered by the Regulatory Panel.

- 3.6 The vehicle will be examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations if the Panel determine that it may be licensed as a Private Hire Vehicle.

- 3.7 The applicant, Mr Garside, states that he intends to work for Uber.

- 3.8 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 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 as the Panel must be satisfied that the vehicle is safe to be licensed as a Private Hire Vehicle. The vehicle will be examined at one of the Council's authorised testing stations and must pass the MOT and Compliance tests before being issued a licence.

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

11.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are none arising directly from the content of this report.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

Private Hire Vehicle Criteria
Private Hire Vehicle Licence application

APPENDICES

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Regulatory Panel	22 February 2022