

Report of the Divisional Officer Licensing, Food & Safety General Licensing Committee 8th June 2018

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 – Restricted Private Hire Vehicle – Request for Exemption from Displaying the Door Stickers and the Licence Plate – Restricted Private Hire Vehicle RV 305 – Mr David Jones

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Mr Jones is the proprietor of restricted private hire vehicle RV 305 which is a silver Mercedes Vito, vehicle registration mark W2 GET.
- 1.2 In April 2018 Mr Jones submitted an application to licence the vehicle stating on the application form that it was to be used for Airport travel and Executive Hire only.

2.0 Current Condition

- 2.1 On 8th September 2017, Members considered a report to require all restricted private hire vehicles to display licence plates and door stickers and the conditions were amended to state:
 - "Vehicle plates and stickers must be securely fixed to the vehicle. The vehicle plate is to be fixed on the bumper bar or boot lid/rear door between centre line and the offside of the vehicle. Stickers must be affixed to the front and offside doors of the vehicle. The plate and stickers must be kept clearly visible at all times. The vehicle plate must be returned to the Council on expiry of the licence."
- 2.2 The main concern was that restricted vehicles were hard to identify as licensed vehicles without the licence plate and stickers affixed to the vehicle. See attached copy of the report from 8th September 2017 at Appendix A.

3.0 The Request

- 3.1 On 16th May 2018 Mr Jones submitted a request for an exemption from displaying the door stickers and licence plate on the exterior of of his restricted private hire vehicle, RV 305. The reasons for the request are that he has recently set up a business as Gower Executive Travel with his wife and they only have one licensed vehicle which is used for airport travel, executive private hire and as their own private car.
- 3.2 Mr Jones is also hoping to do wedding transport and feels that by placing the badges on the exterior of the vehicle it would spoil the opportunity for photographs for the hirers and would therefore lose him business. Mr Jones has confirmed that he has no intention of using the vehicle for school runs.

4.0 Consideration

- 4.1 The General Licensing Committee is requested to determine whether to:
 - approve the request by Mr Jones for an exemption from displaying the door stickers and licence plate on his restricted private hire vehicle RV 305; or
 - ii) refuse the request by Mr Jones for an exemption from displaying the door stickers and licence plate on his restricted private hire vehicle RV 305, giving full reasons for the decision.

The General Licensing Committee's instructions are requested.

Background Papers: Licence Application

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