

REPORT TO	DATE OF MEETING
GENERAL LICENSING COMMITTEE	14th April 2015

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SUBJECT	PORTFOLIO	AUTHOR	ITEM
APPLICATION FOR AN EXEMPTION TO DISPLAY A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE PLATE	REGENERATION, LEISURE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES	Wajed Iqbal	

SUMMARY AND LINK TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES

A report on an application to apply an exemption to display licence plates on a private hire vehicle.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is requested to determine whether to apply an exemption to the requirement to display a private hire vehicle licence plate and associated markings on the exterior of the vehicle.

DETAILS AND REASONING

An application for an exemption to display the Private Hire vehicle licence plate and other markings has been received from Mr Frank Smith of 7 Meadow Drive, Houghton Preston, PR5 0AP (Date of Birth: 22/07/1953), relating to a BMW 520d SE, registration LG11 YHJ; first registered 07/03/2011.

Mr Smith intends to use the vehicle for executive account work only and has provided a letter (Appendix 1) further explaining his intentions and reasons.

The Licensing Unit have inspected the vehicle and believe it to be of an exceptional standard. Mr Smith has been advised to make the vehicle available for inspection by the Committee at the time of the hearing.

Section 48(5) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 requires the Council to issue a licence plate; the exhibition of the plate is dealt with by Condition 6 of South Ribble Borough Council's Private Hire Vehicle Conditions.

Under section 75(3) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Council can waive the requirement to display the licence plate, other markings and the driver's badge, by issuing a notice which can be carried effectively in lieu of the licence plate being displayed. This is common practice in relation to vehicles used for chauffeur driven/executive hire as opposed to regular Private Hire bookings.

The Council has formally considered such requests before and, in appropriate circumstances, has given approval where it was felt that either the vehicle and/or type of use warranted a notice under Section 75(3).

The Committee are requested to consider the application in light of the above.

WIDER IMPLICATIONS

In the preparation of this report, consideration has been given to the impact of its proposals in all the areas shown below. A risk assessment has also been carried out. The table shows the implications in respect of each of these.

FINANCIAL	None
LEGAL	Under the provisions of section 75(3) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) act 1976, where a licence is in force under section 48, the Council may provide a notice in writing given to the vehicle proprietor, exempting them from the requirement to display licence plates and/or the driver's badge, on any occasion that the notice is carried in the vehicle or an any occasion specified in the notice. Any party at the hearing has a right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court.
RISK	None
OTHER (see below)	

<i>Asset Management</i>	<i>Corporate Plans and Policies</i>	<i>Crime and Disorder</i>	<i>Efficiency Savings/Value for Money</i>
<i>Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion</i>	<i>Freedom of Information/ Data Protection</i>	<i>Health and Safety</i>	<i>Health Inequalities</i>
<i>Human Rights Act 1998</i>	<i>Implementing Electronic Government</i>	<i>Staffing, Training and Development</i>	<i>Sustainability</i>

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- Appendix 1 – Letter from Mr. Smith