

TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSING AND REGULATORY SUB COMMITTEE

Date: 10 July 2024

PART I

Report Title	Request for Private Hire Vehicle Licence for Vehicle over 5 years. KJ19 AVV Blue Citroen C3
Purpose	For the Committee to consider the request included in this report, representations made by the owner of the vehicle and to determine whether the vehicle is fit for purpose and should be issued with a licensed plate.
Applicant	Mrs Ramona Dragu
Options	The Committee may: a. Grant the request, with or without conditions; or b. Refuse the request.
Report Author	Debbie Rosenveldt, Licensing Officer licensing@teignbridge.gov.uk
Appendices / Background Papers	A: Applicant request B: MOT history C: Photographs

1. APPLICATION DETAILS

- 1.1 Vehicle first registered – 29 April 2019
Age of vehicle, if granted - 5 years and 3 months

The vehicle does not meet the Council's licensing policy as it is over 5 years of age.

- 1.2 MOT expires on 21 June 2025 with no advisories.
- 1.3 Vehicle inspection booked at the depot on 5 July, details to be provided prior to the hearing.
- 1.4 **Licensing Officer:**
Vehicle inspected – 28 June 2024
Officer comments.
The vehicle was in good condition internally and externally.

Recommendation:

This vehicle is just over 5 years of age and would not have been put before committee had it been submitted earlier this year. Members are to determine whether to grant a licence.

2. RELEVANT POLICY AND LAW

- 2.1 Paragraph 5.2 of the Council's Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing Policy states that:

A vehicle being presented for initial licensing is required to be under five years old at first registration.

- 2.2 All vehicle licences are issued annually.

- 2.3 Section 48(4)(c) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 states that:

'Every licence granted under this section shall— (c) remain in force for such period not being longer than one year as the district council may specify in the licence.'

- 2.4 Section 48(2) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 states that:

'A district council may attach to the grant of a licence under this section such conditions as they may consider reasonably necessary including, without prejudice to the generality of foregoing provisions of this subsection, conditions requiring or prohibiting the display of signs on or from the vehicle to which the licence relates.'

- 2.5 The above Policy and statutory provisions reflect the Council's responsibility to ensure that all hackney carriage and private hire vehicles are safe and fit for use by members of the public. The Committee has the discretion to license a vehicle if it is of the view that the vehicle is safe, fit for use and is in an acceptable condition.

- 2.6 The decision of the Committee following a complete review of the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy in April 2009, after taking into account the views from the trade, were as follows:

"The Committee decided that vehicles being presented for initial licensing must be under five years old."

- 2.7 Section 50(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 provides:

'that a district council shall not under the provisions of this subsection require a proprietor to present the same hackney carriage or private hire vehicle for inspection and testing on more than three separate occasions during any one period of twelve months.'

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of defending the appeal if the application is refused and the applicant appeals to the Magistrates' Court.

4. LEGAL

The Committee are required only to ensure that Public Safety is not compromised by the granting of the licence. If they are satisfied that safety is reasonably assured, they may grant the licence for a maximum of 12 months or such shorter period as they see as appropriate.