

TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSING AND REGULATORY SUB COMMITTEE

27 AUGUST 2025

PART I

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| Report Title | Request for a small plate for a private hire vehicle |
| Purpose | To consider approval for a small plate for Silver, Ford Focus, FD21 DXU – P765 |
| Applicant | Mr James Westmore |
| Options | The Committee may: a. Grant the request to be used for executive hire. b. Refuse the request. |
| Report Author | Mrs Andrea Furness, Licensing Manager licensing@teignbridge.gov.uk |
| Appendices / Background Papers | A: Request for small plate B: Sample plate C: Vehicle photographs |

1. RELEVANT POLICY AND LAW

Section 48 (6)(a) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 provides that

‘Subject to the provisions of this Part of this Act, no person shall use or permit to be used in a controlled district as a private hire vehicle in respect of which a licence has been granted under this section unless the plate or disc issued in accordance with subsection (5) of this section is exhibited on the vehicle in such manner as the district council shall prescribe by condition attached to the grant of the licence.’

The Council’s requirement for the display of licence plates on the rear of licensed vehicles is set out in the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy, at paragraph 9.4 on page 27.

‘9.4 Licence Plates

The licensing plate identifying the vehicle as Hackney Carriage or Private Hire shall be securely fixed to the outside rear of the vehicle in a position as approved by the Council whilst the vehicle is being used for hire purposes and shall be kept fully visible and legible at all times.

A vehicle identification badge shall be fixed to the front windscreen in a position that meets current MOT regulations. The badge will display the plate number,

vehicle model, registration and number of passengers on the front face with the Council's details and plate number on the rear.'

Small plates have previously been granted for specialist vehicles when the main use has been for weddings and special occasions. The removal of a plate from a licensed vehicle is not permitted at any time.

2. APPLICATION DETAILS

- 2.1 The applicant has requested replacement of the traditional size plate with the smaller plate (Appendix B).

3. MAIN IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The main implication is that the plate is a visual aid for the members of the public to show that it is a licensed vehicle. The standard size plate is 240mm x 180mm and the smaller plate requested is 230mm x 75mm.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.