

AMENDMENT TO PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE CONDITIONS

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members with information regarding an application to allow the Mayor to have a crest on display on the front doors of the mayoral car.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee agree to:
- (a) Grant the application
 - (b) Refuse the application

3. Issues and Choices

- 3.1 On the 5 March 2012, the mayor's office made a request via e-mail (**Annex A**) for the mayor's car to be allowed the mayoral crest to be displayed on the front doors of the vehicle (**Annex B**).

The vehicle currently being used, is a private hire licensed vehicle owned by Prestige-Raffles based in Stacey Bushes. The current conditions with this council relating to private hire vehicles only allows the displaying of signs which show the operator of that vehicle and that the vehicle must be pre-booked, no other form of signage is allowed (**Annex C**).

The vehicle concerned is plate exempt and would not normally be required to display any signage. If the committee decide to grant the application the crests must be displayed on the two front doors of the vehicle and removed after the mayoral journey has been completed. It is proposed that the crest will be made of a magnetic material so it can be easily removed and affixed.

4 Implications

- 4.1 Policy.

Under Section 48 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the committee imposed conditions on private hire vehicles regarding the displaying of signs on the vehicle. This included size of sign and wording permitted on that sign and placement area. This was to keep a uniform display on licensed vehicles.

- 4.2 Any deviation from this condition may cause others to seek similar changes to suit their purposes.

5 Resources

None

6 Legal

6.1 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Section 48 - Licensing of private hire vehicles.

(1) Subject to the provisions of this Part of this Act, a district council may on the receipt of an application from the proprietor of any vehicle for the grant in respect of such vehicle of a licence to use the vehicle as a private hire vehicle, grant in respect thereof a vehicle licence:

Provided that a district council shall not grant such a licence unless they are satisfied—

(a) that the vehicle is—

- (i) suitable in type, size and design for use as a private hire vehicle;
- (ii) not of such design and appearance as to lead any person to believe that the vehicle is a hackney carriage;
- (iii) in a suitable mechanical condition;
- (iv) safe; and
- (v) comfortable.

(b) that there is in force in relation to the use of the vehicle a policy of insurance or such security as complies with the requirements of [F94Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1988],

and shall not refuse such a licence for the purpose of limiting the number of vehicles in respect of which such licenses are granted by the council.

(2) 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 the foregoing provisions of this subsection, conditions requiring or prohibiting the display of signs on or from the vehicle to which the licence relates.

6.2 Any person aggrieved by the refusal of a district council to grant a vehicle licence under this section or by any condition specified in such a licence, may appeal to a magistrates court.