

Meeting of:	Public Protection Licensing Committee
Date of Meeting:	Friday, 27 February 2026
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Live Well Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:	Application to waive age policy guidelines for the licensing of a private hire vehicle
Purpose of Report:	To determine an application for the grant of a vehicle which falls outside the current age policy guidelines approved by the Public Protection Committee
Report Owner:	Trevor Baker, Director of Environment and Housing
Responsible Officer:	Kirsty Evans, Licensing Team Manager
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	None
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for decision by the Public Protection Licensing Committee
Executive Summary:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Public Protection Licensing Committee has adopted age policy guidelines which detail how old vehicles can be when first licensed as a hackney carriage or a private hire vehicle. This application for the grant of a private hire vehicle licence falls outside the policy and therefore the Committee are asked to determine the application. 	

Recommendation

1. It is recommended that having regard to the report, the Age Policy Guidelines adopted by the Public Protection Licensing Committee and any representations made by the applicant, that the Committee determine the application

Reason for Recommendation

1. The application falls outside the Age Policy Guidelines for the grant of a private hire vehicle licence.

1. Background

- 1.1 It is the duty of the Local Authority to determine applications made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and Town Police Clauses Act 1947. These applications are referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee for determination because the application falls outside the policy guidelines.
- 1.2 The Age Policy Guidelines were approved by the Public Protection Licensing Committee on 2 July 2019 and detail that a vehicle must be under 6 years old at the time of first registration. Vehicles older than this can continue to be licensed provided a renewal application is submitted before the expiry of licence and vehicle testing at the Alps garage is successful (there must be no break in licence).

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 On 29 January 2026, Mr. Samer Hbeisheh submitted an application for the grant of a private hire vehicle licence.
- 2.2 Application details:

Make:	Skoda
Model:	Oktavia
Registration No:	GD68 NHK
Fuel Type:	Diesel
Date of First Registration:	23 January 2019
In accordance with the age policy the vehicle should be:	Under 6 years old
Age of vehicle at time of application:	7 years old
Colour:	Silver
Mileage recorded at last MOT inspection:	MOT Test undertaken 18 June 2025 with milage shown as 162,533 miles on the certificate

Passengers:	4
Accessible Vehicle:	No

A copy of the application is detailed in **Appendix A**.

- 2.3 As the vehicle falls outside the age policy guidelines by being over 6 years old, the Committee is requested to determine the application.
- 2.4 This vehicle was previously licensed as PH071 from 27 December 2019 to 23 December 2025, but no renewal application was received.
- 2.5 On 25 November 2025 a suspension notice was issued to PH071 after being in a road traffic collision. This notice required that the vehicle be re-tested at the Alps garage before the suspension could be lifted and that the vehicle was not to be used as a private hire vehicle in the meantime. A copy of this suspension notice is detailed in **Appendix B**.
- 2.6 The applicant has advised that he did not submit a renewal application because he didn't realise he needed to. He assumed that once the vehicle has been tested the suspension would be lifted. The full details of the applicant's explanation are detailed in the application form, found in Appendix A.
- 2.7 Pictures of the vehicle were taken on 27 March 2025 by Licensing Enforcement Officers and are detailed in **Appendix C**.
- 2.8 If members are minded to grant the application, the vehicle will proceed to testing at the Alps Garage. A licence would only be issued upon the completion of a successful test.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1 This report has been screened for evidence of the Five Ways of Working and how it may contribute to our Well-being Objectives.
- 3.2 The proposals support the following well-being objective: Objective 2: Providing decent homes and safe communities.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1 None. This relates to a regulatory function.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1 None.

Employment

5.2 None.

Legal (Including Equalities)

5.3 Section 48 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 states: -

(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 [F1Part 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 licences 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. Background Papers

None.

Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licence New and Renewal - VOG-792171315 - Application Details

Date Received: 2026-01-29 13:19:23

Are you applying for yourself or on behalf of a business? Person

Business Contact Details

Title:

First Name:

Email:

Phone Number:

Business Details:

Business Name:

Business Address:

Your Contact Details

Name: Samer Ihabshah

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone:

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Address:

What are you looking to do today?

Apply for a new licence

If renewing, provide your vehicle plate number:

Does your application relate to Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicle?: Private Hire (pre-book only)

If Hackney, give name and address of person or company for whom you drive or intend to drive the licensed vehicle:

If private, give name and address of The Private Hire Operator for whom you drive or intend to drive the licensed vehicle?

A2Z Taxis

178 Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4HN

Vehicle Details

Registration Number: GD68NHK

Vehicle Make: SKODA

Vehicle Colour: SILVER

Year of Manufacture: 2019

Is the car taxed? Taxed

Registration Number: GD68NHK

MOT expiry date: 17/06/2026

First Registered: 2019-01

Fuel Type: DIESEL

Are the vehicle details provided correct? Yes

Is the vehicle subject of a current license in another authority? No

If so, which authority:

Is the vehicle wheelchair accessible? No

Do you have a wheelchair lift? No

Will the vehicle be used for Vale of Glamorgan school transport? Yes

Is there anyone else involved in the renting, keeping, employment or letting of this vehicle? No

If Yes, please fill in each individual's details:

Additional Comments:

Just want to mention that vehicle licence for PH071 expired on 23/12/2025. I had an accident on 22/11/2025 so I informed the vale of Glamorgan council of it so then they suspended the vehicle licence until the vehicle passes the test and they receive the certificate, then suspension will be lifted.

From this I didn't think that I needed to do anything until I fix my vehicle and then book an MOT test with the council. Now I fixed my vehicle, I was in touch with council to book MOT test but they mentioned that since the vehicle licence for PH071 has expired and, as i didn't submit a renewal application prior to expiry, I now to need apply for the Grant of a new licence - The only issue is that my vehicle is over 6 years old. So the only way to do this is for the application to go to committee for a decision in relation to waiving the Age Policy Guidelines. I appreciate it if you could consider my situation and help with resolving this matter. Thanks

Payment Receipt:

Pay Amount: [REDACTED]

Pay Reference: [REDACTED]

Pay Description: [REDACTED]

Pay Narrative: [REDACTED]

Transaction Reference: [REDACTED]

Transaction Status: [REDACTED]

Unique Transaction ID: [REDACTED]

Review

Assigned Officer: Verity Allely

Documents Received:

Vehicle Insurance Document

Summary of action taken:

Printed and referred to EO as this will be going to Committee.

Outcome: Close Case

Date/Dyddiad 26th November 2025
Ask for/Gofynwch am Licensing
Telephone/Rhif fôn 01446 709105
Fax/Ffacs 01446 709808
e-mail/e-bost licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
Your Ref/Eich Cyf
My Ref/Cyf SRS/LIC/PH071

The Vale of Glamorgan Council
Public Protection
Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU
Telephone: (01446) 700111
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd
Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holton, Y Barri CF63 4RU
Rhif ffôn: (01446) 700111
www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk



Samer Saleh Hbeisheh

Dear Mr Hbeisheh,

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976

SECTION 60 SUSPENSION NOTICE

SUSPENSION OF VEHICLE LICENCE

PH071, SILVER, SKODA OCTAVIA, REG NO GD68 NHK

Further to information provided to the Licensing Department on 24th November 2025 regarding the above vehicle being involved in a road traffic accident, I hereby confirm the following.

Your Private Hire Vehicle licence in respect of PH071 is **suspended with immediate effect**. This action is taken under section 60(1(a)) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

Section 60.

(1) *Notwithstanding anything in the Act of 1847 or in this part of this Act, a district council may suspend or revoke or (on application therefore under section 40 of the act of 1847 or section 48 of this Act, as the case may be) refuse to renew a vehicle licence on the following grounds:-*

- (a) *that the hackney carriage or private hire vehicle is unfit for use as a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle;*
- (b) *any offence under, or non-compliance with the provisions of the Act of 1847 or of this part of this Act by the operator or driver, or*
- (c) *any other reasonable cause.*

Until this Notice of Suspension is removed the vehicle cannot be used for hire or reward. To do so would be an offence under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

Under the provisions of the above Act, any proprietor aggrieved by a decision of a district council under this section may appeal to the Magistrate's Court at Cardiff Magistrates Courts, Fitzalan Place, Cardiff, CF24 0RZ within 21 days of receipt of this Notice.

What you need to do next

- 1) You need to either email the Alps at garage@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk, or call them on 02920 673244, to arrange an appointment for a test. The fee for a test for suspension notice is £45.
- 2) You will need to make the payment at the Alps garage once passed the test.
- 3) Once the vehicle passes the test and the Licensing Office receives the pass certificate, the suspension notice will be lifted and an email sent to you to confirm the same. **Until you receive notification from the Licensing Office that the suspension notice has been lifted you cannot use your vehicle for hire and reward.**

I also take this opportunity to inform you that should your vehicle licence expire before this notice is lifted, the notice will cease to exist.

If an application to renew the vehicle has not been submitted before the expiry date of the vehicle licence, AND the vehicle falls outside the Vale of Glamorgan Age Policy, the vehicle licence will not be renewed and the matter referred to the Public Protection Committee for deliberation.

To waive the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Age Policy Guidelines, an application for the renewal of a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicle must be made within five working days of the expiry of the last licence.

Yours faithfully



Ilaria Agostini-Green
Senior Licensing Officer (Enforcement)

Pictures of Vehicle















