

LICENSING COMMITTEE INFORMATION SHEET
24 APRIL 2024

TYPE OF APPLICATION: Application for an exemption from the *Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle Policy*

APPLICANT: Matthew Chyla (0040)

INFORMATION NOTE

Mr Chyla is seeking an exemption to the Committee Policy that states that any new grant application for a taxi must be for a Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV) and that only a WAV can ever be licensed on such a licence.

The Committee has before it an email from Mr Chyla indicating the grounds under which he is seeking the exemption.

Mr Chyla is currently a licence holder of Private Hire Vehicle Licence (PH085) and is requesting to be able to licence his current vehicle as a Taxi Vehicle.

Should the Committee be minded to grant the exemption the applicant is aware that he will be required to submit an application for the grant of a new Taxi Licence.

COMMITTEE GUIDELINES/POLICY

Licensing Committee policy states that any new grant application for a Taxi Licence must be for a WAV vehicle.

It is clear in my case that the monopoly in Aberdeen are stopping me from operating through any of their offices due to my views and beliefs.

This point combined with the fact that booking offices have made clear of their intentions to ostracise drivers who defect to Uber - should they begin to operate in Aberdeen leaves me with no alternative but to write this letter.

Although I understand the licensing committee have no jurisdiction over booking office's conduct towards a driver, the committee may be able to offer an alternative option for an individual like myself exiled from Aberdeen booking offices.

As a taxi-driver licence holder, I may operate a taxi-licensed vehicle in the city, however, as previously mentioned I'm not in any financial position to trade out to a WAV vehicle.

I respectfully request the licensing committee to grant me the ability to place a Taxi License on my saloon vehicle.

This would be a mutually beneficial outcome as it would provide an Executive Vehicle Representing Aberdeen City on the streets during busy weekend periods and also enable me to work independently whilst taking in a reasonable level of income.

I look forward to your response.

Kind Regards,

Matthew Chyla