

## AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

**REPORT:** Regulatory Committee  
**DATE:** 20 March 2006  
**REPORTING OFFICER:** Chief Executive  
**SUBJECT:** Taxi Licensing Matter  
**WARDS:** Borough-wide

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

Mr Paul Burgess of 47 Mather Avenue Runcorn is the holder of SSD Licence No 768 PHV Licence No 163 and PHO Licence 28. The PHV licence relates to a blue Peugeot 807 that has been licensed for 5 passengers. Mr Burgess is appealing the number of passengers the vehicle is licensed to carry.

### 2. **RECOMMENDED: That the Committee considers whether the Private Hire Vehicle is suitable to be licensed for 6 passengers.**

### 3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 On 8 December 2005 Mr Burgess applied to licence vehicle registration number KR54 VFM a Blue Peugeot 807 as a Private Hire Vehicle.
- 3.2 On the application form Mr Burgess indicated that the number of seats excluding the driver is 6.
- 3.3 For MPV style vehicles the Council has a condition that there is approved seat configuration to allow safe access and egress for passengers at all times. (MPV mean multi purpose vehicle in which the seats may be removed or reconfigured and which may be wheelchair compatible). Also the maximum number of passengers which may be carried by any vehicle shall be determined by the Council (See PHV Conditions numbers 2.1.2 and 2.3 - Qualifying Vehicles).
- 3.4 John Findlow the Councils Enforcement Officer dealt with the application and noted that the seat configuration of the vehicle would only allow 5 passengers.
- 3.5 The seating pattern of the vehicle as presented for test was such that access /egress to the rear seats was obstructed (see diagram). In order to comply with conditions a seat would be required to be removed. This removal would result in the vehicle having 5 licensable passenger seats.

**3.6** Mr Burgess is appealing against the decision not to allow 6 passengers in the vehicle on the grounds that the Council cannot allow one or two vehicles (Ford Galaxy) to have six passenger seats and his vehicle to have five passenger seats when his vehicle is 4 inches longer.

**4. OPTIONS**

- 4.1** The options available to the Committee are:
- Grant the appeal to allow 6 passenger seats or
  - Refuse the appeal

**5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**7. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

<b>Document</b>	<b>Place of Inspection</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>
Application Documents	Legal Services	John Tully/Kay Cleary