

RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION



Decision taken by individual Cabinet member (delete as appropriate)

(All sections must be completed (mark "N/A" as applicable))

DECISION MAKER *(Name and designation)*

James Duggin, Executive Head of Operations, in consultation with Cllr M.S. Sheehan,
Operational Services Portfolio Holder

DECISION AND THE REASON(S) FOR IT

DECISION

To amend the Council's Taxi Licensing Policy which comes into effect from 1st April 2023 so that the section on vehicle type reads as follows:

6.52 Vehicle type

6.53. To facilitate registration, sale and entry into service, vehicles marketed and sold in the UK must, by law, generally be subject to vehicle type approval. Vehicle type approval effectively certifies that each vehicle meets a minimum set of regulatory, technical and safety requirements, and meets specified performance standards for its type. As this is a legal requirement, and most vehicles cannot be registered the DVLA in the UK without this the licensing authority will not check the type approval (subject to the exception below), but will not a licence a vehicle that is not registered by the DVLA in the UK. For this purpose, the licensing authority will require a copy of the V5C vehicle registration certificate on application.

6.54. Imported vehicles which are over 10 years old at the time of import are not subject to type approval before registration. Therefore, where a vehicle is 10 years old or more at the time of first registration in the UK, the licensing authority will on first application for a licence require evidence that the vehicle is subject to a Voluntary VA (VIVA) from the DVSA before licensing the vehicle.

JUSTIFICATION

The following information has been received from the Department for Transport in respect of vehicle type approval

Hello, We are writing to you to highlight a change in vehicle type approval standards from 1st January 2023. This may impact the specifications which you publish for vehicles to be used for taxis and private hire vehicles and other purposes. The current acceptable options for vehicle registration in Great Britain include EU type approval and two forms of type approval that have been introduced since Brexit: UK(NI) type approval and GB type approval, which were introduced on 1 January 2023. EU type approvals are currently accepted in GB via a Provisional GB approval scheme, but a vehicle with Provisional approval is outwardly identical to one with EU type approval. Whole vehicle type approval to EU, GB or UK(NI) are all acceptable in terms of registration in Great Britain at this time. Within Northern Ireland only EU and UK(N1) are acceptable.

There is also Individual Vehicle Approval (VA) typically used for more specialised vehicles or one-off imports. Vehicles imported when they are more than 10 years are not Subject to VA, and only require MOT prior to registration, but DVSA offer a non-statutory. VA (known as Voluntary IVA or VIVA) service where required, to verify that a vehicle Over 10 years old meets the /VA rules. For an overview on type approval see Vehicle approval: Overview-GOV.UK www.gov.uk).

For more detailed information please refer to the website of the Vehicle Certification Agency and the Type Approval and What is Type Approval2 pages in particular.

Kind regards,

Taxi and PHV Policy Team, Department for Transport

The Council's updated taxi licensing policy approved by Cabinet on 7th February, and coming into effect on 1st April 2023 states in respect of type approval

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The Council's Taxi Licensing Policy needs to be updated to reflect this change, as there is no maximum age for licensed vehicles it is important that the relevant standards are checked on any vehicle which falls outside of the type approval exemption, to ensure the standards and safety of any licensed vehicle.

DATE DECISION TAKEN

3rd March 2023

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

(Those examined by officers and generated by consultation, etc)

No amendment to the taxi licensing policy, but as there is no maximum age that a vehicle can be licensed as a taxi or private hire vehicle, this would be a risk that an imported vehicle over 10 years old could be licensed without ensuring that it meets the relevant standards. It is important that a consistent standard is maintained across the licensed vehicle fleet, for safety reasons and public confidence.

ANY CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

(conflict of interests of any executive member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision. A note of dispensation should be attached).

N/A

Signed



(Decision maker)

Signed

(Cabinet member consultee where applicable)

Designation Operational Services Portfolio Holder

Please send completed form to Chris Todd, Democracy and Community