

ROAD TRANSPORT LICENSING COMMITTEE Committee Meeting

Minutes of a meeting held in public of the Road Transport Licensing Committee ("the Committee" or "the RTLC") held at 09:30 on Tuesday 18th April 2023 in the Silverdale Boardroom at Thie Slieau Whallian, Foxdale Road, St John's.

- Present: Mr G Curphey (Chair)
 Mr C Kniveton
 Mr M Devereau
- Absent: Miss M Norman (Vice Chair)
 Mr J McBride
- In attendance: Mr NC Capewell (Secretary)
 Mr SM Callister (Project Co-ordinator)

The meeting commenced at 09:38.

Bus Vannin – Section 25 Regular Service Licence ("RSL") Variation Applications

The Secretary advised that there were six applications to vary RSLs. He added that Bus Vannin was hoping would to introduce the changes later this month should the applications be approved.

RSL No. 02/08 – Services 1, 1A, 1H, 2, 2A, 11, 11A, 12, 12A, N1

A regular service of stage vehicles between;

- Willaston/Hailwood Avenue/Birch Hill and Port Erin/Port St Mary via the Airport & Castletown (11, 11A).
- Nobles Hospital/Hailwood Avenue and Port Erin/Port St Mary via the Airport & Castletown (1, 1A, 1H).
- Onchan, Ballachrink and Port Erin/Port St Mary via the Airport & Castletown (2, 2A).
- Douglas and Port Erin/Port St Mary (N1).

The service currently operates;

- On Mondays to Saturdays between the Promenades, Central Douglas and Port Erin at least every 20 minutes during the day, 30 minutes during the early evening and hourly during the later evening.
- On Sundays it operates every 20 minutes, with slightly reduced early morning and evening frequency.
- Night Owl (N1) journeys only operate on Friday and Saturday nights.

To operate the service by making the following amendments;

- A re-timing of daytime journeys.
- A partial renumbering of some services.

- The operation of an extra limited stop bus from Port St Mary/Port Erin to the Grandstand and the TT Course on TT Race Days (Service TT1)

Why are the variations required?

- Minor adjustments to journey times following the re-opening of Castle Street in Castletown and operational experience.
- Comments and confusion (especially in Lower Douglas) following the previous reduction in the amount of service numbers used.
- To provide a direct service on TT Race Days for residents and visitors from the South of the Island.
- There is no change to the general level of service provision.

RSL No. 02/09 – Services 22, 22H, 25, 25B and 25H

A regular service of stage vehicles between;

- Nobles Hospital and Willaston/Birch Hill via Central Douglas & Bucks Road (22/22H) or via Victoria Road (25/25H).
- Schooldays journey between Central Douglas and Bemahague School via Victoria Road (25B).

To operate the service by making the following amendments;

- To operate a five minute advancement of the daytime provision.
- Slightly revised intermediate stop times.

Why is the variation required?

- To provide a more regular service to Bucks Road and Woodbourne Road (in connection with the Douglas to Ramsey service) and to avoid stand congestion at Lord Street.
- Operational experience and other road traffic.

RSL No. 02/10 – Services 44, 4B, 4R, 14, 14B, 8, 8R, N8

A regular service of stage vehicles between;

- Douglas and Peel via Foxdale & Patrick (4, 4B).
- School day only journeys between Peel & Niarbyl and Braaid/Foxdale to Castletown (4, 14).
- Infrequent Monday to Friday journeys between Peel & Niarbyl and Douglas/Foxdale to Castletown (4, 14).
- Limited Mondays to Fridays journeys to Ballaughton Manor Hill and Cooil Road (14B).
- Infrequent Summer Saturday and Sunday service between Peel and Castletown or Peel and Port Erin (4R, 8, 8R).
- Approximate hourly Summer Saturday and Sunday service between Port Erin and The Sound (28).
- Occasional journeys between Peel and Port Erin via St Johns & Foxdale (N8).

To operate the service by making the following amendments;

- A change of provision of Mondays to Fridays social inclusion buses to Niarbyl and Ballamodha.
- The re-introduction of a Mondays to Fridays service to Groudle and Kind Edward Road on limited days only (Service 15) and transfer of these buses to this RSL.

- The re-introduction of a Mondays to Fridays service to Ballabrooie on limited days only (Service 15B).
- The re-introduction of a Summer Saturday and Sunday journeys to Niarbyl, Round Table, Peel to Castletown and Port Erin to Cregneash/Sound.

Why are the variations required?

- Better use of existing resources which also provides extra Douglas to Foxdale (& return) journeys.
- Public requests for a resumption of a social inclusion – the Groudle/King Edward Road/ Ballabrooie journeys to only operate on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in conjunction with a Tuesdays and Thursdays provision between Foxdale and Castletown.
- Customer and business requests and to cater for weekend leisure travel (local and visiting).

RSL No. 02/13 – Services 5, 5A, 5C, 6, 6A, 6C, N5, and N6

A regular service of stage vehicles between;

- Douglas and Ramsey via Crosby, St. John's, Peel, Kirk Michael and Ballaugh.

The service currently operates;

- Between Douglas and Peel approximately every 30 minutes during the day with alternate journeys providing an hourly service between Peel and Ramsey.
- Hourly between Douglas and Peel during the later evening with some journeys between Peel and Ramsey.
- Half hourly on Sundays between Douglas and Peel and every 2 hours between Peel and Ramsey during the day with infrequent journeys during the evening.
- Night Owl (N5) journeys only operate on Friday and Saturday nights.

To operate the service by making the following amendments;

- Operation of a schoolday Service 6C Ramsey to Douglas via QEII High School five minutes earlier between Ramsey and Peel.
- An evening journey from Peel to Douglas at 22:45 operating from Mondays to Thursdays only.
- A Fridays and Saturdays journey from Peel to Douglas operating as Service 6F via Foxdale and Glen Darragh Road.
- An extra Fridays and Saturdays journey from Ramsey to Douglas via Peel at 23:10.

Why are the variations required?

- The late arrival at QEII and Peel due to passenger numbers as well as traffic congestion.
- To provide a late journey to Foxdale on Fridays and Saturdays. On Fridays and Saturdays travel to Greeba and Crosby is available on the existing 23:15 departure from Peel.
- To provide a later departure from Ramsey to the Lezayre and west coast as well as a later journey from Peel to Douglas.

RSL No. 02/19 – Services 3, 3A, 3B, N3, X3

A regular service of stage vehicles between;

- Douglas and Ramsey via Laxey.

The service currently operates;

- Between Douglas and Ramsey via Laxey – operating every 30 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime and hourly evenings and Sundays (3, 3A, X3).
- Night Owl (N3) journeys only operate on Friday and Saturday nights.

To operate the service by making the following amendments;

- A slight retiming between timetable points – no change to overall times.
- A change of 08:00 Ramsey to Douglas journey from 3A to 3 (via St Ninians instead of Victoria Road).
- Additional Fridays and Saturdays journey at 2140 from Douglas to Ramsey.

Why are the variations required?

- Operational experience and other road traffic.
- To achieve the Douglas arrival time due to Victoria Road/Ballaquayle Road traffic congestion and a significant section of the passengers on this service wish to travel to Willaston (Grandstand stop).
- To provide an additional Fridays & Saturdays Douglas to Ramsey journey (in connection with 02/13 Ramsey to Douglas application) at a time currently not operated (21:40).

RSL No. 02/47 – Service 29

A regular service of stage vehicles between;

- Douglas and Port Soderick via White Hoe on Schooldays only.

To operate the service by making the following amendments;

- To include the Douglas Town section within this service number.

Why is the variation required?

- To remove service number change currently applied mid journey (29 to 35 & vice versa).

The Committee considered the applications for all of the RSL variations and unanimously decided to approve them.

Mr P Storry – PPV Operator Registration Variation Application

The Secretary stated that the applicant wished to vary his operator registration through a change of registered address and operating centre.

The new registered address was identified in the application as 26 Lhon Dhoo Close, Onchan and the proposed operating centre was identified as 25 Greeba Drive, Onchan. He added that, should the application be successful, 11 Hillcroft, Douglas would be surrendered as an approved operating centre.

The Committee discussed the application and unanimously decided to approve it.

Mr SJ Leech – PPV Operator Registration Variation Application

The Secretary said that the applicant wished to vary his operator registration through the addition of two operating centres.

The proposed operating centres were identified as Flat 4, 1-3 Elm Drive, Onchan and 15 Peveril Road, Peel.

The Committee discussed the applications and unanimously decided to approve them.

Miss BL Wicklow – PPV Operator Registration Variation Application

The Secretary advised that the applicant wished to vary her operator registration through the addition of an operating centre.

The proposed operating centre was identified as 7 Darragh Passage, Anagh Coar.

The Committee discussed the application and unanimously decided to approve it.

Department of Infrastructure – GV Operator Registration Variation Application

Mr Callister stated that the applicant wished to vary its Operator Registration through the addition of an operating centre.

The proposed operating centre was identified in the application as Jurby Motordrome, Jurby.

The Committee discussed the application and unanimously decided to approve it. Mr Callister was asked to write to the operator, formally approving the application and reminding them of the deadline of 31st December 2023 for all operating centres to comply with the Town and Country Planning Act 1999.

The meeting was adjourned for private business and lunch at 10:04 and resumed at 13:35.

Douglas Borough Council – GV Operator Registration Variation Application

Mr Callister said that the applicant wished to vary the Operator Registration through the addition of an operating centre.

The proposed operating centre was identified in the application as Middle River Civic Amenity Site.

The Committee discussed the application and unanimously decided to approve it. Mr Callister was asked to write to the operator, formally approving the application and reminding them of the deadline of 31st December 2023 for all operating centres to comply with the Town and Country Planning Act 1999.

Minutes of a Meeting Held in Public – 19th December 2022

The minutes were read, reviewed and approved as a true reflection of that meeting with no amendments being necessary.

Minutes of a Meeting Held in Public – 29th March 2023

The minutes were read, reviewed and approved as a true reflection of that meeting after minor amendments had been made.

The meeting was adjourned for private business at 13:55 and resumed at 14:21.

Mr ME Shimmin – New PPV Operator Registration

The Secretary advised that the applicant wished to register as a new operator under Part "A" of the Register of PPVs and was applying to add the right to operate one Private Hire car. He added that the registered address / operating centre was identified in the application as The Flat, Kings Haven, Ballaragh Road, Laxey.

Mr Shimmin entered the meeting at 14:27 and elected to give evidence under oath.

Mr Shimmin stated that he had already purchased a 2015 vehicle with 40,000 miles on the clock and intended for it to have a full service every 10,000 miles. He added that all maintenance work would be carried out by a local mechanic that he already used and that he intended to carry out daily checks on tyres, fluids, wipers, lights, oil and screen wash on each day the vehicle was used.

Mr Shimmin said that he was currently driving for a local service provider and intended to continue using them to provide his principal workload. He confirmed that he had no intention of employing any drivers but, if he did in the future, the Committee strongly advised him to enter into written contracts with the drivers, which would oblige them to inform him should they be convicted of any offences or should their medical circumstances change to the extent that it would affect their ability to safely drive a PPV.

The Committee advised that becoming an operator conferred greater responsibilities on Mr Shimmin as opposed to those of a driver. Mr Shimmin confirmed that he had read part of the Road Transport Act 2001 ("the Act") and knew where to find it should he need to refer to it or its accompanying regulations. He referred to section 20 of the Act and knew that he must report any offences to the Committee in writing should he commit any.

Mr Shimmin stated that he had sufficient financial resources to maintain his transport undertaking.

The Committee considered what had been said and unanimously decided to approve the application and informed Mr Shimmin that the Secretary would formally write to him in the next few days.

Mr Shimmin left the meeting at 14:40.

Urgent Matters as Approved by the Chair

There were no other urgent matters that had not previously been discussed. As a result, the meeting closed at 14:48.

The minutes were signed by the Chair Mr G Curphey on 9th May 2023

Noel Capewell
Secretary
Road Transport Licensing Committee