

# ROAD TRANSPORT LICENSING COMMITTEE

## Committee Meeting

Minutes of a meeting held in public of the Road Transport Licensing Committee ("the Committee" or "the RTLCL") held at 09:30 on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023** in the Silverdale Boardroom at Thie Slieau Whallian, Foxdale Road, St John's.

Present: Mr G Curphey (Chair)  
Miss M Norman (Vice Chair)  
Mr M Devereau  
Mr J McBride

Absent: Mr C Kniveton

In attendance: Mr NC Capewell (Secretary)  
Mr SM Callister (Project Co-ordinator)

The meeting commenced at 09:30.

### **Mrs S Bobokova t/a Mrs B's Taxi – New PPV Operator Registration Application**

The Secretary advised that the applicant wished to register as a new operator under Part "A" of the Register of Public Passenger Vehicles ("PPVs"). He added that the applicant was applying to add the right to operate one section 29 Ply for Hire vehicle of up to eight passenger seats in the Malew District.

He added that the RTLCL had received notification from the current Operator Registration of Mrs JA Nicholson of the intent to surrender part of that Registration's section 29 licence provided that the application was approved.

The Secretary stated that the registered address/operating centre was identified in the application as 4 Reayrt Ny Cashtal, Castletown and further advised that he was awaiting confirmation from the Planning Enforcement Section of DEFA ("Planning") that Mrs Bobokova could keep one PPV at the same address as her husband, who also kept one PPV there.

Mrs Bobokova entered the meeting at 10:08 and elected to give evidence under oath.

Mrs Bobokova explained that she would mainly focus on the Airport and could be present for the first and last flights to arrive each day. She added that she had been driving for another operator at the Airport.

Mrs Bobokova circulated a Business Plan which included a blank daily check sheet. Part of the Business Plan included her intention to replace her starting car, a Skoda Superb, with a newer one in two to three years should the application be approved.

Mrs Bobokova said that she used a trusted mechanic based in Ballasalla, who was another PPV operator and had a vehicle ramp, for regular vehicle maintenance. She also used a garage in Douglas for regular safety inspections as well as major work. She added that the vehicle was serviced every 10,000 miles and quarterly checks would be undertaken should the application be approved.

Mrs Bobokova advised that she had asked Airport-based colleagues about buying a PPV business and that was how the transfer of business had occurred. She was aware that she was buying that business and not the ply for hire plate and added that she had sufficient funds to properly maintain her transport undertaking.

The Committee enquired as to whether Mrs B's Taxi was registered as a trading name. Mrs Bobokova replied that she had not registered the name yet, but would do so if the application was approved.

Mrs Bobokova stated that she would not be using a service provider and would advertise her business herself. The Committee acknowledged that she didn't intend to employ any drivers at this stage, but strongly advised her, should she employ any in the future, to enter into written contracts with them, obliging them to inform her if they were convicted of any offences or if their medical circumstances changed to the extent that it affected their ability to safely drive a PPV.

The Committee advised that until the Secretary had received a response from Planning, it could not formally approve her application.

Mrs Bobokova left the meeting at 10:27.

**After meeting note:** Planning confirmed that Mrs Bobokova would be permitted to keep a PPV at the same residence as her husband (who also kept a PPV there) on 31<sup>st</sup> May. The application was then formally approved as per the Committee's instructions.

### **Mr NG Kolev – PPV Operator Registration Variation Application**

The Secretary said that the applicant wished to vary his operator registration under Part "A" of the Register of PPVs. The applicant was applying to add the right to operate one section 29 Ply for Hire vehicle of up to eight passenger seats in the South and Malew Districts.

He added that the RTLC had received notification from the current Operator Registration of Mr R Gallon of his intent to terminate that Registration's section 29 Licence provided that the application was approved.

The registered address was identified in the application as Flat 3, 14 Stanley View, Douglas. No new operating centres were identified in the application.

Mr Kolev and Mr Gallon entered the meeting at 10:33 and both elected to give evidence under oath.

Mr Kolev read from a prepared statement and advised that he wanted to operate a ply for hire business and provide a safe and reliable service to locals, businesses and tourists. He added that he intended to replace his current vehicle by the end of this year.

Mr Gallon stated that he was happy to transfer his business to Mr Kolev as he had not been in the best of health. He added that he had stopped operating his vehicle and was happy to terminate his operator registration as well as surrender his ply for hire plate and operator disc.

Mr Kolev circulated a Business Plan and confirmed that he kept daily recorded checks and the Committee noted that completed examples were included in the Business Plan. He said that he had previously driven a ply for hire vehicle in the East District and confirmed that he had enough funds to properly maintain his transport undertaking. He had used a local garage for the past four years to maintain his vehicle and confirmed that he recorded mileage on his daily check sheets.

The Committee advised Mr Kolev that he wasn't required to surrender his existing private hire operator disc and confirmed that the application had been approved.

Messrs Kolev and Gallon left the meeting at 10:55. The Committee asked the Secretary to write to Mr Kolev, formally approving the application and thanking him for his attendance.

### **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 11:00.

**The minutes were signed by the Chair  
Mr G Curphey on 10th October 2023**

Noel Capewell  
Secretary  
Road Transport Licensing Committee