



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE 1 JUNE 2005

Report of the Director of Corporate Services

### REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW HACKNEY CARRIAGE (TW200)

#### RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To approve the Patons/CMAK TW200 for use as a Hackney Carriage within the City of Derby, subject to the satisfactory completion of minor amendments to the design.
- 1.2 To delegate to the Assistant Director – Environmental Health & Trading Standards, authority to approve any minor amendments required, prior to issuing final approval for licensing.
- 1.3 To request the Director of Corporate Services to amend the Council's specification for Hackney Carriages to include the TW200.

#### MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 2.1 The Taxi Licensing Section recently received a request from John Paton & Son, the Glasgow based taxi retailer (in conjunction with CMAK UK, the Coventry taxi manufacturer), for the Council to approve their new vehicle, the TW200, for use as a licensed Hackney Carriage in the Derby city area.
- 2.2 The vehicle has been examined by Licensing Officers and by an examiner at a specified testing station and has been found to meet all the specification requirements apart from 'turning circle'. The turning circle element can only be met by purpose built 'London-style' hackney carriages and this requirement has previously been waived by this Committee for other approved vehicles (i.e. the Peugeot Eurotaxi, Mercedes Eurocab, VW Unique Cab and Peugeot E7). A small number of minor issues remain to be resolved, which relate to seat heights and the type of wheelchair ramps. It is proposed that, subject to the vehicle being approved by this Committee, the Assistant Director, Environmental Health & Trading Standards should be authorised to approve any final amendments required.
- 2.3 The TW200 is based on the Fiat Scudo bodyshell. It is very similar to the Peugeot Eurotaxi that was approved by this Committee in November 2000 and its replacement, the Peugeot E7 that was approved in September 2004. The TW200 incorporates all the improvements originally requested for the Eurotaxi by this authority prior to its approval, together with a number of additional features which benefit the driver and customer.

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**Background papers:** None

**List of appendices:** Appendix 1 – Implications

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

1. None

**Legal**

2. None

**Personnel**

3. None

**Equalities impact**

4. None

**Corporate Objectives and Priorities for Change**

5. The approval of this vehicle as a Hackney Carriage will contribute to the Council's priority of **promoting the city as a major force for industry, commerce, culture and tourism.**