

APPENDIX 2

From: Cheyne McWilliam [REDACTED]

Sent: 22 October 2020 20:04

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Disabled taxi

Hello John

Thank you for getting in touch, as a former carer looking after my partner, it was always extremely difficult to try and organise any type of appointment as I knew through experience that we had to work around availability.

Having more taxis accessible in Perth would have made a big difference in our lives.

For us to get into town, we always had to book a taxi and had to plan our times out with school runs.

This greatly limited our times and my partners opportunities. We could never decide on a whim to go out like other people. Everything had to be planned.

I would like to give my support to you in your application for a disabled access Taxi

Yours

Cheyne McWilliam

Sent from my iPhone



CENTRE FOR INCLUSIVE LIVING Perth & Kinross

Access Equality Independence

Jane Moncrieff, Development Manager
90 Tay Street
Perth, PH2 8NP

26th November 2020

To Whom it may concern,

We are a Disabled Persons Organisation based in Perth and provide wheelchair accessible vehicle training to Taxi Companies in Perth and Kinross.

Through reports from Members and discussions with those we have provided training to we have found that there are not enough WAV's available to those who require them, especially during school drop off/pick up times, handover times and Sundays. I understand that this also is the situation for people who do not require a WAV. Though often a WAV is the only accessible option available for the individual to transport them to an appointment.

It has been reported that people are often told that taxi operators cannot guarantee a WAV will be available and if it is, they cannot guarantee there will be one available to pick them up at the end of their appointment/event/activity.

It has also been reported that if a WAV is required that it must be booked, as the person cannot guarantee that there will be a WAV at a taxi rank.

Through the training that we have provided we are often told by Taxi Drivers that WAV's are used for house moves or to place a child into the WAV while still in their buggy. As you can imagine, this limits the availability of WAV's further.

Our Members and other Residents with impaired mobility or assistance dogs in Perth and Kinross heavily rely on the availability of WAV's due to accessibility restrictions on buses, trains, and other public transport. They would, I am sure, appreciate an increase in the number of available WAV's.

Therefore, we support and would greatly welcome the proposal of further Hackney Licenses for WAV's in Perth.

Should you require any further information, please contact our Manager.

Kind Regards

Jane Moncrieff

From: Fiona Williams [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 October 2020 18:50
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter of Support / Hope this helps with your application.

To whom it may concern -

I am the mother of a severely disabled daughter who is an electric wheelchair user. I am writing this letter of support for JJosh Private Hire Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle as I believe there is a serious need for wheelchair accessible taxis in the Perth and Kinross catchment.

I have known John for over a decade and have called on his services and that of his wheelchair accessible private hire vehicle on many occasions. I have always found John and those who work along side him to be very understanding of the needs of the disabled user.

Due to the limited number of wheelchair accessible Taxis in Perth I have to plan well in advance of any trip my daughter makes using wheelchair accessible taxis or private hire. This is an obvious disadvantage should she wish to go out or needs to get home at short notice using this mode of transport. This not only disadvantages her but also the rest of the elderly and disabled in the Perth and Kinross community.

I therefore support John with his application for a hackney plate so he is able to put a wheelchair accessible vehicle on the taxi rank. Any wheelchair accessible vehicles addition to the Perth and Kinross catchment would be really welcomed by all.

Fiona Williams

*49 Evelyn Terrace
Perth
PH2 0BS*

26 March 2021

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing this in support of JJTosh Private Hire being given a hackney license. John and Jane have on many occasions "rescued" my disabled daughter from being stranded, thanks to his wheelchair accessible vehicle and he goes above and beyond when helping vulnerable passengers.

I am a parent of a disabled adult with a large electric wheelchair. We often go shopping in the town of Perth, and occasionally visit the concert hall or cinema, and have extreme difficulty accessing any taxis at the taxi ranks both outside the cinema and on South Street.

We have to pre book taxis to collect us and this does not allow us to be flexible when browsing the shops, having to rush away in order to meet the pre arranged taxi. During normal term time there is always difficulty accessing wheelchair accessible taxis at certain times of day.

Non disabled people do not have this restriction placed upon them. Most taxis (none that I've seen) available on the ranks do not have wheelchair access, which in this day and age of equal access, is unacceptable.

We often travel by train to other towns and cities in Scotland, and can always get a wheelchair accessible taxi at the station ranks. Not in Perth though.... City status should come with disabled access everywhere including transport.

I sincerely hope the taxi licensing committee of Perth & Kinross Council will look favourably on any requests to bring wheelchair taxis into the hackney system, perhaps pushing for all taxis to be wheelchair accessible, and please bear in mind the Equality Act when coming to a decision.

Thank you

Karen Paterson

Telephone [REDACTED]

PKC

3 Hillcrest Avenue

Perth

Dear Sir/Madam

Application for a Hackney Plate. Wheelchair accessible.

I would like to support the above application.

JJTosh Private Hire were an invaluable lifeline for myself and my late husband George for all our outings over several years.

We used this for what we called "cinema Sundays" where we were "chauffeured" every week to the cinema. Not only dropped at kerb but also taking time to take George into the cinema and on return, straight into our home.

Disabled people can be very vulnerable and to have a wheelchair accessible service where you can absolutely trust you are in safe hands is paramount.

We had lots of laughter and banter and George although he had severe communication difficulties always managed to be vocal enough to join in.

"cinema Sunday" days come up every week on my Facebook memories now. I can look back on that day to remember what film we saw that week. It would not happen if it were not for a disabled private hire service like JJTosh.

Due to the limited number of wheelchair accessible Taxis in Perth I had to plan well in advance of any trip my husband and I made using wheelchair accessible taxis or private hire. This is an obvious disadvantage should he wish to go out or needs to get home at short notice using this mode of transport.

I would like to support John with his application for a hackney licence so he can put a wheelchair accessible vehicle on the taxi rank. Any wheelchair accessible vehicles addition to the Perth and Kinross catchment would be really welcomed by all.

Mrs Linda Craig

From: Morag Stewart [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 October 2020 18:40
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Wheelchair Accessible Taxis in Perth

To Whom it May Concern,

I am, and have been concerned at the lack of wheelchair accessible taxis in and around Perth. I have a disabled brother residing in Perth who uses an electric wheelchair on a permanent basis. We require taxis to transport him in and around the city on a regular weekly basis, and when attending out-patient/GP appointments and social events where transport is not provided/ when weather is inclement. This obviously needs to be a taxi adapted to provide wheelchair access. We have found when appointments clash with school start/finish times, there are simply none available. This can and has caused difficulties in his attendance to events.

It is almost impossible to organise an "ad hock" taxi for a spontaneous eventuality, and it would be greatly appreciated if numbers of wheelchair accessible taxis could be increased in and around Perth.

With all this in mind I would like to offer my support to the application of a Hackney licence so that John & Jane of JJTosh Private Hire, can provide a wheelchair accessible Taxi that would be available on the Rank.

We have in the past used this business and found them to be very understanding of the needs of there clients, in particular ensuring that my brother feels safe travelling with them, it is a shame there are not more like them.

On behalf of a concerned wheelchair user,

Morag Stewart

137 Cedar Drive

Perth

PH1 1RW

Dear John

We would like to offer our support to you in your application for an appropriate wheelchair accessible cab on the taxi rank; I am a full time carer for a family member and the lack of accessible vehicles makes it impossible to go into town unless planned, to ensure we can return home safely. The complete lack of access to an appropriate vehicle, is discriminating against people that require support. We fully support the need for a Hackney plate on the rank to allow people to as independent as possible.

Yours sincerely

Peter Sieviewright



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba



Ms Lisa Simpson
Head of Legal & Governance Services
Perth and Kinross Council
2 High Street
Perth
PH1 5PH

Our ref. RC9504/EH

**Please quote this reference
in all correspondence**

28 January 2021

Dear Ms Simpson,

Mr John & Mrs Jane McIntosh, 2 Dufftown Place Perth, PH1 3FT

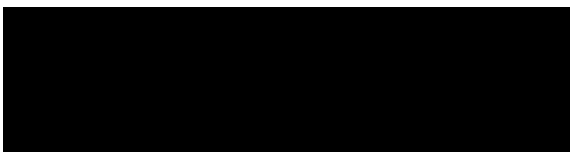
I have been contacted by my above-named constituents regarding their application for a taxi hackney operator licence.

Mr and Mrs McIntosh tell me that they currently run a private hire taxi business with three wheelchair-accessible taxis and they are in the process of applying for a taxi hackney operator licence.

I understand that there is a cap on the availability of hackney operator licences in Perth and Kinross of 70 but that special consideration can be given to authorising additional licences in certain circumstances. Mr and Mrs McIntosh are keen to be given such consideration as they point out that there are only currently six wheelchair-accessible taxis available in the local authority area with a hackney licence. This is despite the council putting in place measures to encourage operators to put additional accessible taxis in place.

It is clear that more wheelchair-accessible taxis are required across Perthshire. Given that allowing Mr and Mrs McIntosh a hackney taxi licence would increase the availability of accessible taxis by three for the area I would appreciate it if consideration would be given to waiving the 70-licence cap in this instance.

Yours sincerely



Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Mr Scott McIntyre
9 Waverley Drive
Callander
FK178ET

6th November 2020

Pullar House
35 Kinnoull Street
Perth
PH1 5GD

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to support JJ Tosh private hire in his application for a Hackney Plate. I have been using JJ Tosh private hire for the last 8 years. He and his wife offer a friendly reliable wheelchair service in Perth and are very professional. Whether its a trip to the shops, the cinema or even an airport drop of its no hassle to JJ Tosh private hire. I would recommend them highly for a Hackney Plate. They would provide a real benefit to wheelchair users within Perth needing a taxi home knowing they are on the rank would give me and others peace of mind and assurance that your in safe hands with a family friendly business. Perth is in need of more accessible taxis as other companies have failed to live up to the wheelchair accessibly they claim they have. Going on personal experience and talking with other people in a similar situation.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Scott McIntyre.

Scott McIntyre.