











Private Hire & Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy review 2022.

We are reviewing our Private Hire & Hackney Carriage Licensing Policy and carried out a three week public consultation. Of the 78 responses majority were from drivers at 40, 17 from vehicle owners and 8 from private hire operators:

	% Total	% Answer	Count
 Licensed private hire driver	6.41%	6.58%	5
 Licensed hackney carriage driver	7.69%	7.89%	6
 Licensed combined driver	37.18%	38.16%	29
 Licensed private hire operator	10.26%	10.53%	8
 Licensed hackney carriage vehicle proprietor	6.41%	6.58%	5
 Licensed private hire vehicle proprietor	15.38%	15.79%	12
 Member of the public	10.26%	10.53%	8
 Interested party, please specify	1.28%	1.32%	1
 Other, please specify	2.56%	2.63%	2
 [No Response]	2.56%	--	2
Total	100.00%	100.00%	78

Current wording and proposed wording and number of responses are listed below:

Question 1
Age / Emissions Standards for Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles

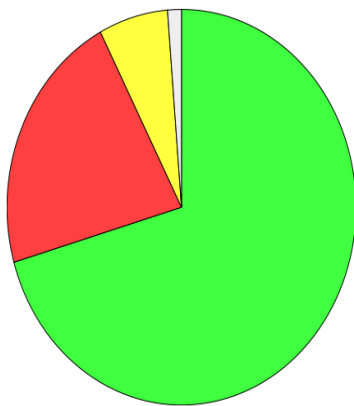
Current Wording Pg 36

Vehicles in respect of applications for new and replacement hackney carriage and private hire licences shall be no older than five years from the date of first registration, this is for all vehicles.

Any renewal of an existing hackney carriage or private hire saloon vehicle will only be granted if the vehicle does not exceed the maximum age limit of twelve years. For wheelchair accessible vehicles the maximum age limit is fifteen years.

Proposed Wording

For wheelchair accessible vehicles there is no upper or lower age or emissions limit.



	% Total	% Answer	Count
I agree with the proposed wording	70.51%	71.43%	55
I disagree with the proposed wording	21.79%	22.08%	17
I neither Agree or Disagree	6.41%	6.49%	5
[No Response]	1.28%	--	1
Total	100.00%	100.00%	78

Table .2

To increase the number of wheelchair accessible vehicles on fleet we are proposing to remove the age and emissions restrictions for these vehicles, 71% of respondents agreed with the proposed wording. Reasons for responses are given from Pg 10 onwards in the full consultation document.

Question 2

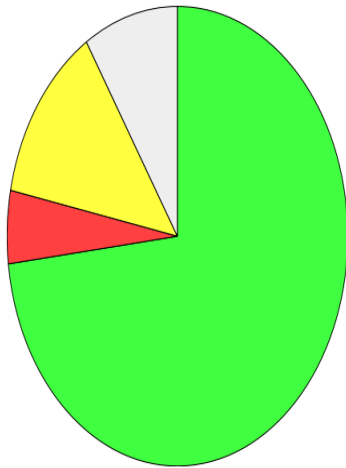
Age / Emissions Standards for Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles

Current Wording Pg 8

All new applications for hackney carriage vehicle licences are required to be wheelchair accessible vehicles. WAV's that are currently licensed may only be replaced with a like for like vehicle e.g. another WAV that complies with current Policy. The private hire trade will continue to be encouraged to licence a proportion of their fleet as Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles.

Proposed Wording

WAV's that are currently licensed may only be replaced with a like for like vehicle e.g. another WAV that complies with current Policy. The hackney carriage and private hire trade will continue to be encouraged to licence a proportion of their fleet as Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles.



	% Total	% Answer	Count
I agree with the proposed wording	73.08%	80.28%	57
I disagree with the proposed wording	5.13%	5.63%	4
I neither Agree or Disagree	12.82%	14.08%	10
[No Response]	8.97%	--	7
Total	100.00%	100.00%	78

Table .2

To allow more flexibility in choice of new vehicles we are proposing to remove the wheelchair accessible restriction on new hackney carriage vehicle applications. 80% of respondents agreed with the proposed wording. Reasons for comments are from pg. 17 in the full consultation document.

In response to the consultation the proposed wording has been changed to reflect flexibility for wheelchair renewals:

Current Wording Pg 8

All new applications for hackney carriage vehicle licences are required to be wheelchair accessible vehicles. WAV's that are currently licensed may only be replaced with a like for like vehicle e.g. another WAV that complies with current Policy. The private hire trade will continue to be encouraged to licence a proportion of their fleet as Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles.

Proposed Wording

WAV's that are currently licensed may be replaced with a like for like vehicle e.g. another WAV that complies with current Policy. **Departure from policy in exceptional circumstances e.g medical grounds will be considered on a case by case basis.** The hackney carriage and private hire trade will continue to be encouraged to licence a proportion of their fleet as Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles.

Question 3

Age / Emissions Standards for Hybrid / Electric Vehicles

To increase the number of hybrid and electric vehicles on fleet we are proposing to remove the age and emissions restrictions for these vehicles.

Current Wording Pg 36

Vehicles in respect of applications for new and replacement hackney carriage and private hire licences shall be no older than five years from the date of first registration, this is for all vehicles.

Any renewal of an existing hackney carriage or private hire saloon vehicle will only be granted if the vehicle does not exceed the maximum age limit of twelve years. For wheelchair accessible vehicles the maximum age limit is fifteen years.

Proposed Wording

For hybrid or fully electric vehicles there is no upper or lower age or emissions limit.

Please select the option that best reflects your opinion on the above proposed wording change:



	% Total	% Answer	Count
I agree with the proposed wording	84.62%	86.84%	66
I disagree with the proposed wording	8.97%	9.21%	7
I neither Agree or Disagree	3.85%	3.95%	3
[No Response]	2.56%	--	2
Total	100.00%	100.00%	78

Table .2

To increase the number of hybrid and electric vehicles on fleet we are proposing to remove the age and emissions restrictions for these vehicles. 87% of respondents agreed with the proposed wording. Reasons for comments are from pg. 21 in the full consultation document.

In response to the consultation the proposed wording has been changed to reflect LPG vehicles:

Current Wording Pg 36

Vehicles in respect of applications for new and replacement hackney carriage and private hire licences shall be no older than five years from the date of first registration, this is for all vehicles.

Any renewal of an existing hackney carriage or private hire saloon vehicle will only be granted if the vehicle does not exceed the maximum age limit of twelve years. For wheelchair accessible vehicles the maximum age limit is fifteen years.

Proposed Wording

For hybrid, fully electric and LPG vehicles there is no upper or lower age or emissions limit.

Question 4

Age / Emissions Standards for Vehicles other than Wheelchair Accessible / Fully Electric or Hybrid

Current Wording Pg 36

Vehicles in respect of applications for new and replacement hackney carriage and private hire licences shall be no older than five years from the date of first registration, this is for all vehicles.

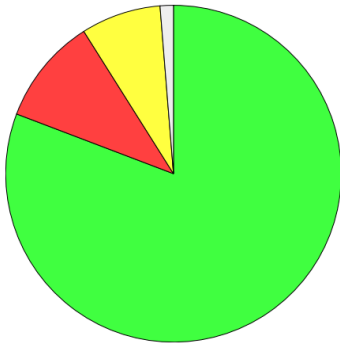
Any renewal of an existing hackney carriage or private hire saloon vehicle will only be granted if the vehicle does not exceed the maximum age limit of twelve years.

Proposed Wording

Applications for new and replacement hackney carriage and private hire licences shall be Euro VI vehicle Emission standard or higher. Euro VI vehicle Emission standard became mandatory for all vehicles in 2015.

Any renewal of an existing hackney carriage or private hire vehicle other than Wheelchair Accessible / Fully Electric or Hybrid will only be granted if the vehicle does not exceed the maximum age limit of twelve years.

Please select the option that best reflects your opinion on the above proposed wording change:



	% Total	% Answer	Count
I agree with the proposed wording	80.77%	81.82%	63
I disagree with the proposed wording	10.26%	10.39%	8
I neither Agree or Disagree	7.69%	7.79%	6
[No Response]	1.28%	--	1
Total	100.00%	100.00%	78

Table .2

To allow more flexibility in choice of new and replacement vehicles we are proposing to move from a minimum and maximum age specification to a minimum emissions standard and a maximum age specification. 82% of respondents agreed with the proposed wording. Reasons for comments are from pg. 25 in the full consultation document.

Question 5

Accident Damaged Replacement Vehicles

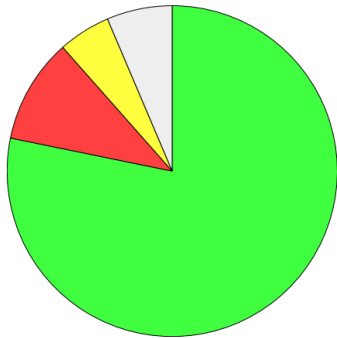
Current Wording Pg 9

Vehicles that have been deemed to be an insurance “write off” (i.e. in accident damage category A, B, C, or S) and/or endorsed as being “accident damaged” on their V5 document will not be licensed. Licenced vehicles deemed to be an insurance “write-off” (i.e. in accident damage category A, B, C, or S) and/or have their V5 document endorsed as being ‘accident damaged’ will have their licence revoked.

Proposed Wording

Vehicles that have been deemed to be an insurance “write off” (i.e. in accident damage category A, B, C, or S) and/or endorsed as being “accident damaged” on their V5 document will not be licensed. Licenced vehicles deemed to be an insurance “write-off” (i.e. in accident damage category A, B, C, or S) and/or have their V5 document endorsed as being ‘accident damaged’ will have their licence revoked but can be replaced with a like for like vehicle to the one that was deemed an insurance write off.

Please select the option that best reflects your opinion on the above proposed wording change:



	% Total	% Answer	Count
I agree with the proposed wording	78.21%	83.56%	61
I disagree with the proposed wording	10.26%	10.96%	8
I neither Agree or Disagree	5.13%	5.48%	4
[No Response]	6.41%	--	5
Total	100.00%	100.00%	78

Table .2

To reduce the administrative burden on the licensing service we propose to allow like for like replacement of accident damaged vehicles. 84% of respondents agreed with the proposed wording. Reasons for comments are from pg. 30 in the full consultation document.

Question 6

Manufactures Fitted Tinted Windows

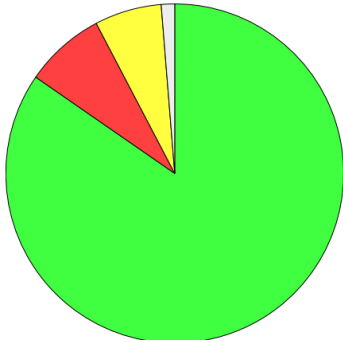
Current Wording Pg 36

The windows should maximise passenger visibility into and out of the vehicle. If tinted glass is fitted, it shall have minimum light transmittance of 75% for the front windscreen, 70% for the front windows and 30% for all rear window glass (unless previously exempted by the Council).

Proposed Wording

The vehicle must be fitted with glass which is in accordance with current vehicle construction regulations prescribed in respect of the normal zone of vision i.e. the front windscreen 75% light transmittance and the front door windows 70% light transmittance. All remaining windows to the rear of the B pillar may have tint complying to original manufacture specification. No retrospective fitting of tinted windows shall be fitted. No unapproved self-adhesive material (tinted or clear) shall be affixed to any part of the glass.

Please select the option that best reflects your opinion on the above proposed wording change:



	% Total	% Answer	Count
I agree with the proposed wording	84.62%	85.71%	66
I disagree with the proposed wording	7.69%	7.79%	6
I neither Agree or Disagree	6.41%	6.49%	5
[No Response]	1.28%	--	1
Total	100.00%	100.00%	78

Table .2

In line with improved glass technology we propose to remove restrictions on manufactures fitted rear windows tints. 86% of respondents agreed with the proposed wording. Reasons for comments are from pg. 35 in the full consultation document.

Question 7

Disability Awareness Safeguarding & County Lines Training

Current Wording Pg 5

Apply online with the following documents:

- Application form
- DVLA driving licence check code
- DBS update service details
- Medical examination report, if required
- Passport style colour photograph – full face, no hats, caps, sunglasses etc – uploaded
- Licence fee

Proposed Wording

Apply online with the following documents:

- Application form
- DVLA driving licence check code
- DBS update service details
- Medical examination report, if required
- Passport style colour photograph – full face, no hats, caps, sunglasses etc – uploaded
- **Safeguarding awareness training pass certificate**
- Licence fee

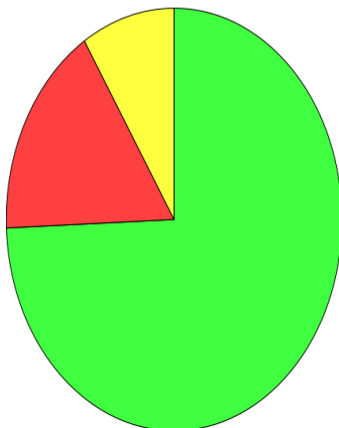
Current Wording Pg 6

New applicants are also required to undertake safeguarding training which also includes county lines exploitation

Proposed Wording

New applicants and existing drivers at renewal are required to undertake safeguarding training which also includes county lines exploitation.

Please select the option that best reflects your opinion on the above proposed wording change:



	% Total	% Answer	Count
I agree with the proposed wording	74.36%	74.36%	58
I disagree with the proposed wording	16.67%	16.67%	13
I neither Agree or Disagree	8.97%	8.97%	7
Total	100.00%	100.00%	78

Table .2

To keep safeguarding training up to date and relevant we propose to introduce annual refresher online training, at no cost to the trade. 75% of respondents agreed with the proposed wording. Reasons for comments are from pg. 40 in the full consultation document.