

Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Policy Consultation 2023

Substantive changes to the Hackney Carriage
(taxi) and Private Hire policy

Contents

Changes from 2014 – All Policies	3
Changes from 2014 – Drivers	4
Changes from 2014 – Vehicles	4
Changes from 2014 – Operators	5
Changes from Draft v1	6

From 2014 Policies

All Policies	Definitions – revised and updated
	Objectives – further discussion provided regarding the policy objectives
	Status – new section; departure from the policy
	Implementation - removed
	Application procedures and service standards – Four working days increased to 15 working days Written reminders from the Council removed and may be sent as matter of courtesy Applications received less that 10 days has been changed to 15 days
	Consideration of applications - removed
	Right to work in the UK – changed to meet current legislative requirements, Section 8 of draft policy
	Disclosure Scotland checks – removed and new section regarding DBS for drivers (9.10), proprietors (10.2) and operators (11.1.2 and 11.5).
	Grant and renewal of Licences Operators changed from 1 year to 5 years
	Added sections in draft policy 1.5.9 Taxi forum 2.6 Licence fees 2.7 Payments 2.8 Refunds 2.9 Duplicate copies Section 3: Role of Hackney carriage/taxi and private hire trade Section 4: Powers and duties Section 5: Authorised Officers Section 6: Whistleblowing Section 7: National Register of taxi licence refusals, revocations and suspensions (NR3S) Appendix 1: Suitability Policy Appendix 2: Definition of ‘fit and proper’ Appendix 3 Enforcement of this policy Appendix 3a: Penalty points system Appendix 6: Licence conditions of Stretch Limousines

From 2014 Policies

<p>Hackney carriage and private hire drivers – Policy and Conditions of Licence</p>	<p>Section 9 of the draft Policy Drivers competency New application time to completion added NR3S check added Safeguarding training requirement added Bar added for unsuccessful completion of knowledge and spoken English tests Medical examination parameters revised and specific guidance issued for diabetic applicants and drivers DBS requirements altered to meet the statutory guidance Exemption certificate section added</p> <p>Good driver standards added (appendix 4 draft policy)</p>
<p>Hackney carriage and private hire vehicles (inc Limousine Licences) – Policy and Conditions of Licence</p>	<p>Section 10 of the draft policy Limitation on numbers added Disclosure check for proprietors added Simplification of specification for acceptable vehicle type Environmental considerations revised to Environmental considerations and environmentally friendly fleet section Stretched Limousines section revised to draft policy Section 12 and Appendix 6 Livery section revised and updated Reduced licence fees added Idling advice added Vehicle licence section updated to Vehicle testing regime Change/transfer of vehicle application and change of vehicle registration updated in section 1.5 draft policy MOT advisories added Vehicle accidents added Advertising added Tyre requirements revised Card machine requirement added Security/CCTV advice updated and revised Private hire meters/personal digital assistant requirements added Accessibility section revised to draft Disability access section Insurance requirements revised Unauthorised use requirement added. Powers and duties – General removed.</p>

From 2014 Policies

<p>Private Hire Operators – Policy and conditions of licensing</p>	<p>Section 11 of the draft policy Operators records of work Wheelchair accessible vehicle quota removed Booking time and date removed Address of hirer required Remarks requirement removed Removed dates when vehicle added and withdrawn from fleet Driver exemption certificate added</p>
	<p>General Operator conditions updated and available at appendix 5. Operators DBS checks to be on the update service Register of DBS details of staff members to be held Public liability insurance required for any office that allow members of the public to enter Training for booking and dispatch staff for vulnerable persons safeguarding and operator obligations</p>

From Draft V1

Section 7 – National Register of Taxi Licence Refusals, Revocations and Suspensions (NR3S)	Legislation has required the Council to use the NR3S system as part of mandatory licencing searches. Information submitted and retention timeframes have been defined to meet legislative requirements.
Section 9.1.4 and 9.1.5	Addition of NR3S to routine checks
Section 10.1.2	Brief summary of the outcome of the unmet demand survey
Section 10.3.2	Vehicle specifics for engine size or break horse power removed
Section 10.4.2 and 10.4.6	Age standard for new vehicles removed
Section 10.4.7	Euro 5 vehicle renewal deadline removed
Section 10.6	Recommends the display of anti-idling sticker rather than requiring a sticker be displayed
Section 10.8.1	MOT advisories relating to safety be rectified rather than those relating solely to tyres and brakes
Section 10.12.6	Removed school contract vehicles from exemption to display a vehicle plate
Section 10.14.1	Tyres on vehicles to be suitable; consistent tyre types removed
Section 10.17	Card machines installation date changed. Exemption added for contract vehicles.
Section 10.18	Requirements for optional CCTV updated.
Section 10.21.1	Requirements for new hackney carriage/taxi vehicles revised.
Appendix 1	Revised to meet Department for Transport licensing standards; other offences added
Appendix 3a.1.1	Added Council complaints procedure
Appendix 4.4.3	Paragraph revised for dealing with lost property
Appendix 5	Removed