

Objective 1 – Vehicle conditions are further improved

Vehicles must be less than 6 years old on the date of the first application, unless they are in an 'exceptionally well maintained condition, subject to inspection at continuing 6 monthly intervals'. A vehicle of 6 years and older has to undergo and pass a visual check and mechanical check before it is licensed.

Currently a vehicle is permitted an unlimited number of attempts to pass these checks. It is proposed to limit the number of attempts. Amendments have been made to the definition of a vehicle that is 'exceptionally well maintained'.

Proposal 1 - Should a vehicle fail a visual inspection a second inspection will be permitted. Should a vehicle fail the second visual inspection it will be deemed not to be of exceptional condition and consequently will not be licensed.

Do you consider this approach to be proportionate?

Detail any other comments or suggestions for amendment

Proposal 2 - Should a vehicle of 6 years or older fail a mechanical inspection with defects in more than one critical area (listed below), it will be deemed not to be of exceptional condition and consequently will not be licensed.

Critical areas covered by the inspection: engine; brakes; suspension; steering, tyres

Do you consider this approach to be proportionate?

Detail any other comments or suggestions for amendment

Proposal 3 - Should a vehicle of less than 6 years old fail a mechanical inspection, one retest will be available. Should the vehicle fail the inspection at the second attempt with defects in more than one critical area the vehicle will not be licensed.

Do you consider this approach to be proportionate?

Detail any other comments or suggestions for amendment

Objective 2 – Vehicle emissions are reduced

Vehicle Age – Vehicles must be less than 6 years old on the date of the first application with exception of purpose-built London style cabs.

<p>Proposal 4 – To remove purpose built London style cabs from the list of exceptions.</p> <p>Do you consider this approach to be proportionate?</p> <p>Detail any other comments or suggestions for amendment</p>
<p>Proposal 5 – To add ultra low emission vehicles to the list of exceptions, permitting vehicles 6 years and over on the first application</p> <p>Detail any other comments or suggestions for amendment</p>
<p>Vehicle emissions – Currently vehicle emission standards are regulated through the MOT.</p> <p>Proposal 6 – The following suggestions are suggested: To require vehicles to be fitted with a Euro 6 compliant engine, from January 2021; or</p> <p>To require vehicles to be fitted with a Euro 4 compliant engine (registered since January 2005), from 1 January 2017 To require vehicles to be fitted with a Euro 5 compliant engine (registered since September 2009), from 1 January 2021 To require vehicles to be fitted with a Euro 6 compliant engine (registered since September 2014), from 1 January 2025</p> <p>Euro emissions standards were first introduced in 1992 (Euro 1) with the aim of making cars cleaner. For diesel cars, the new Euro 6 standards, introduced in September 2014 dramatically dropped the permitted level of nitrogen oxide emitted down to a maximum of 80mg/km compared to the 180mg/km set by the Euro 5 standard. The limit for nitrogen oxide from petrol cars remains unchanged from the Euro 5 standard at 60mg/km. The permitted levels of carbon monoxide and particulate matter remain unchanged from the Euro 5 standard.</p> <p>Would a reduced licensing fee for ultra low emission vehicles be a better approach to reducing vehicle emissions?</p> <p>Detail any other comments or suggestions for amendment</p>
<p>Objective 3 - Licensed taxi vehicles are more easily recognisable</p> <p>Vehicle Design, colour – Currently there are no restrictions on the exterior colour of a hackney carriage.</p> <p>Members of the public can often confuse private hire vehicles with taxi, failing to realise that private hire vehicles are not available for immediate hire. So it is important to distinguish between the two types of vehicle.</p>
<p>Proposal 7 - To introduce a livery colour for hackney carriages, making the vehicles more recognisable to the public. From 1 January 2018 all vehicles relating to new applications for a</p>

hackney carriage licence must be the livery colour agreed by the council.

Do you consider this approach to be proportionate?

What should the livery colour be?

Detail any other comments or suggestions for amendment

Objective 4 - Customers of the service feel the council is spending money well

Motor insurance certificate – Currently there is not a policy relating to the length of cover notes or insurance certificates. It is not currently the case, however should drivers choose to submit short term cover notes throughout the term of the licence this would create an administrative burden.

Proposal 8 – To continue to require evidence of adequate insurance at the time of granting the licence. In the event that a short term cover note is in place at the time of grant, to require the licence holder to present a further insurance certificate to the licensing team before the expiry of the cover note. Failure to present an insurance certificate before the expiry of the cover note will result in the licensing team contacting the licence holder requiring evidence of insurance to be produced. This service will be chargeable.

Do you consider this approach to be proportionate?

Detail any other comments or suggestions for amendment

Customer feedback – Currently it is not a requirement to display a sign or notice informing customers how they can give feedback relating to the service provided.

Proposal 9 - To introduce a requirement to display a notice within the vehicle explaining to a passenger how they can provide feedback to the council.

Do you consider this approach to be proportionate?

Detail any other comments or suggestions for amendment

All feedback should be handed to a member of the licensing team at the conclusion of the Licensing Committee meeting or sent to the licensing team licensing@nwleicestershire.gov.uk before 17 June