

## **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	<b>Definitions</b> – revised and updated
	<b>Objectives</b> – further discussion provided regarding the policy objectives
	<b>Status</b> – new section; departure from the policy
	<b>Implementation</b> - removed
	<b>Application procedures and service standards</b> – 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 than 10 days has been changed to 15 days
	<b>Consideration of applications</b> - removed
	<b>Right to work in the UK</b> – changed to meet current legislative requirements, Section 8 of draft policy
	<b>Disclosure Scotland checks</b> – removed and new section regarding DBS for drivers (9.10), proprietors (10.2) and operators (11.1.2 and 11.5).
	<b>Grant and renewal of Licences</b> Operators changed from 1 year to 5 years
	<b>Added sections in draft policy</b> 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><b>Section 9 of the draft Policy</b>  <b>Drivers competency</b>  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><b>Section 10 of the draft policy</b>  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><b>Section 11 of the draft policy</b>  <b>Operators records of work</b>          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><b>General</b>  <b>Operator conditions updated and available at appendix 5.</b>          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