

APPENDIX 1

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO HACKNEY CARRIAGE & PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY

Page 5, 1.5 – Implementation

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
Discount Taxis, Grantham Bourne taxi driver	1.5.1 – Requests a ‘honeymoon’ period of 3 years before implementation of age policy 1.5.1 - Requests a ‘honeymoon’ period before implementation of age policy so a business plan can be made to make provision for the purchase of the next vehicle.	Because of the suggested increase in the maximum age of the vehicles at application of 7 years finishing at 10 years (12 years for purpose built taxis) and the proposal that the policy not be implemented until April 2012 it is felt a six month lead in would be sufficient. Letters will be sent to all hackney carriage and private hire proprietors, drivers and operators in October advising of the new policy therefore giving them one year’s notice.	Age policy to be 6 months after the implementation of the policy

Page 9, 2.4 - VEHICLE AGE

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
Can Cabs – Gran.	2.4.5 – Prefer no age limit but if necessary a maximum age at application of 5 years and finish at 10 years	After consideration of the responses and the current economic climate, we propose the following: A maximum age at	Amend maximum age of vehicle at application to 7 years finishing

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<p>continued Two Peterborough taxi drivers</p>	<p>2.4.5 - Prefer maximum age at application of 4 years and finish at 10 years</p>	<p>application of 7 years and finish at 10 years (12 years for purpose built taxis). We feel this compromise will be beneficial to both the trade and the public.</p>	<p>at 10 years (12 years for purpose built).</p>
<p>Sky Cabs, Gran.</p>	<p>2.4.5 – Would prefer maximum age of 10 years</p>	<p>Safety standards, appearance and pollution issues will be improved from the current standards.</p>	
<p>AW Taxis, Grantham</p>	<p>2.4.5 – Agrees with 7 years maximum age</p>	<p>This will be monitored and the policy reviewed if necessary.</p>	
<p>Links Taxis, Grantham</p>	<p>2.4.5 - Would prefer maximum age of 6 years</p>		
<p>Bourne taxi driver</p>	<p>2.4.5 – Two suggestions regardless of whether it's a purpose built taxi: Maximum age at application of 6 years and finish at 8 years or, Maximum age at application of 5 years and finish at 10 years</p>		
<p>Nigel's taxis, Stamford</p>	<p>2.4.5 - Prefer maximum age at application of 5 years and finish at 10 years</p>		
<p>Ace Cabs, Stamford</p>	<p>2.4.5 - Would prefer maximum age at application of 6 years and finish at 8 years</p>		
<p>Peterborough driver,</p>	<p>2.4.5 - Prefer maximum age at application of 5 years and finish at 10 years</p>		
<p>68 Grantham taxi drivers</p>	<p>2.4.5 – Prefer no age limit but if necessary because of pollution and image suggests maximum age at application of 7 years and finish at 10 years</p>		

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Continued Env Protection Officer	2.4.5 - Suggests smaller engines for town centre cars	This would not be feasible as we do not have zones	None
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Page 11, 2.10 – Consideration of Applications

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
Licensing Officers	New policy does not state our current stance on not allowing dual plating vehicles	In line with other surrounding LA's, we currently do not allow dual plating of vehicles due to the difficulties of enforcing such a system and the confusion it can cause the public.	To be added to Policy

Page 15, 3.2 – Licences

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
Nigel's taxis, Stamford	3.2.1 – Would like to see a minimum age of 25 years for drivers	By law the only restriction on becoming a taxi or private hire driver is that they must have held an appropriate driving licence for one year. We could be challenged if we introduced a minimum age.	None

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Page 16, 3.3 – Topographical Knowledge

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
Sky Cabs, Grantham	3.3.2 - Does not agree that a driver should be allowed to drive anywhere in SKDC if they have only taken a knowledge test in one area of South Kesteven.	The new policy addresses this and states 'a test to challenge their knowledge of the area within the district of South Kesteven'. This means the whole of the district.	None

Page 26 - Existing Licensed Vehicles

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
AW Taxis, Grantham	Existing Licensed Vehicles, page 26 – Suggests existing vehicles licensed before the implementation of policy are licensed for a maximum period of 2 years	We agree with the comments and suggest that vehicles aged 10 years and older, which are already licensed at the time of the implementation of the policy, continue to be licensed for a maximum period of 2 years.	Amend to 2 years maximum
Links Taxis, Grantham	Existing Licensed Vehicles, page 26 – Suggests existing vehicles licensed before the implementation of policy are licensed for a maximum period of 1 year		
Bourne taxi driver	Existing Licensed Vehicles, page 26 – Suggests existing vehicles licensed before the implementation of policy are licensed for a maximum period of 3 years		

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continued Ace Cabs, Stamford	Existing Licensed Vehicles, page 26 – Suggests existing vehicles licensed before the implementation of policy are licensed for a maximum period of 2 years		
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Page 26, Appendix A, Vehicle Age

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
Can Cabs, Gran.	Vehicle age - Queried what we would class as a 'prestige vehicle' as in their opinion a Mercedes could be classed as prestige and that would mean they could purchase an old Mercedes for less than the cost of an ordinary vehicle and put it on the rank. This would cause confusion.	Advised that the exemption applied for private hire only.	Policy be clarified that age exemption is for private hire use only.

Page 28, 8 – Seats

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
Can Cabs, Gran.	Removal of seats to require access to doors would render MPV's etc useless and restrict the number of taxis able to take larger groups of people.	Explained this was not the intention of the policy as research has shown that the manufactures of such vehicles have carried out the most rigorous safety standards and they are far more qualified to say if a vehicle is safe to carry that amount of passengers.	8.3 & 4 to be removed from policy.
AW Taxis, Grantham	As above		

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Page 28 & 29, 11 – Wheelchair carrying facilities

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
AW Taxis, Grantham	11.1, second bullet point - Policy as it stands would not allow wheelchair accessible vehicles with rear loading facilities as it states ramps should be available from nearside passenger door.	Policy to be amended so as not to exclude some wheelchair accessible vehicles.	Amend wording to 'ramp or ramps for the loading of a wheelchair and passenger shall be available at all times.'

Page 31, 17 – Licence Identification Plates

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
Can Cabs, Gran	17.2 - Although most proprietors are complying with displaying the plate on the rear, exterior of the vehicle, some are placed in such a position on the back window as to be obscured.	The new policy addresses this however; it suggests the plate be clearly visible from the highway in daylight only.	Remove the word daylight

Page 34, 28 – Taxi Signs (roof lights)

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
Ace Cabs, Stamford	2.8. 1 & 2 - Suggests larger size than stipulated and would like requirement for name of company on sign.	He was informed that the sizes in the policy are already in place. Because these sizes were introduced some years ago it is agreed that roof signs have	Policy be amended to use maximum sizes as suggested

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<p>continued AW Taxis, Grantham</p>	<p>2.8.2 - Suggests maximum of 600 mm width, 200 mm depth and height of 210 mm. Research he carried out could not find roof lights with the dimensions we suggest.</p>	<p>probably significantly changed since then.</p>	
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Page 69, Appendix J – Penalty Points

Consultee	Response	Licensing Comment	Amendments to Policy
<p>Discount Taxis, Grantham</p> <p>Sky Cabs, Grantham</p>	<p>Welcomes the introduction of a penalty points system</p> <p>Objects to points for dishonoured cheques, change of address, refusal to take a fare and food in car but approves otherwise.</p>	<p>It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure he has sufficient funds before applying for the licence.</p> <p>Notification of a change of address within 7 days is a legal requirement.</p> <p>Points would only be issued on proof that the driver did not have 'reasonable grounds' to refuse the fare.</p> <p>It is a condition of the compliance test that the vehicle is kept in a clean and tidy condition</p>	<p>None</p>