

Summary of Consultation Reponses

Question 1 – Please rank the following options in order of your preference 1 to 4 (1 = most preferred option and 4 = least preferred option)

Answer Choice	1	2	3	4	Total
Council expands its list of approved medical practitioners with applicants and licence holders having to be examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by one of these approved medical practitioners	2	2	4	3	11
Applicants and licence holders can be examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by any registered medical practitioner.	0	5	4	2	11
Applicants and licence holders being examined and certified as meeting the Group 2 standards by a registered medical practitioner at the GP practice at which they are personally registered.	8	1	1	2	12
The existing arrangements to remain in place	3	3	1	5	12

Question 2 – Please tick which of the following options you think the Council should implement

Option	Response (Total)	Response (%)
Maintain the current requirement for a medical examination every 5 years regardless of age and annually from the age of 65.	10	76.9%
Amend the requirement so that medical examinations are required in line with the Group 2 standards set out in the Department for Transport publication “Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing: Best Practice Guidance” – on initial application and then every 5 years once the licence holder reaches the age of 45 and annually once the licence holder reaches the age of 65.	3	23.1%

Question 3 – Please tick which of the following options you think the Council should implement

Option	Response (Total)	Response (%)
Maintain the current requirement for a drug test to be undertaken as part of the medical examination.	5	41.7%
Remove the requirement for a drug test as part of the medical examination and adopt alternative approaches to drug testing	7	58.3%

Question 4 - Do you have any other comments or suggestions to make in relation to the arrangements in place for medical examinations of those licensed to drive hackney carriage and private hire vehicles? If so, please make those comments or suggestions here.

I believe spot checking to be acceptable for drug abuse. However it should be without passengers in the vehicle or on the way to pick passengers up , especially if this is an early morning trip to the airport meaning the driver will be late for his pick up

Random and on the spot drug and drink testing should be applied

As Redditch and Bromsgrove Councils are, supposedly, aligned, why does Bromsgrove not insist on drug tests for their drivers? Why does the same rule exist for drivers within both areas?

As per VOSA spot check on vehicle. This should be adopted the same as for drugs testing

Drug testing should be done randomly i.e. on the spot. So as anyone who has taken drugs can't get away with it.

Question three – Ideally drug testing unannounced at any time (day or night) is a very good idea...but who pays?
Local authorities don't have enough money and resources to do what they should already be doing.
Alternative approaches far too vague and does not provide enough safeguards for the public.
A possible third option is compulsory drug testing for all annually done at the GP practise they are registered with and additional random totally unannounced testing for at least 50% of the drivers every year. With the requirement that anonymized detailed data is published annually to show that this additional testing is actually being done. Intelligence led testing must also be done.

Drivers who have a long term medical condition should be checked more regularly e.g. if the driver is diabetic, they need to be checked every 2-3 years to ensure customer / patient safety.