

# RBC - Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Renewal Age Limits

## 3. Category A and AX - Vehicles powered fully by electricity or hydrogen fuel cell

The Council is proposing that for vehicles that are powered fully by electricity or hydrogen fuel cell, the licence renewal age limits should be increased by one year as follows:

Category A - vehicles fully powered by electric or hydrogen that are NOT wheelchair accessible vehicles - Under 16 years of age

Category AX - vehicles fully powered by electric or hydrogen that ARE wheelchair accessible vehicles - Under 18 years of age

| 1. Do you agree with the proposed renewal age limits set out above for vehicles that are fully powered by electricity or hydrogen fuel cells? |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                    |                  |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Answer Choices                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                    | Response Percent | Response Total |
| 1                                                                                                                                             | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <div style="width: 83.08%;"></div> | 83.08%           | 108            |
| 2                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <div style="width: 13.85%;"></div> | 13.85%           | 18             |
| 3                                                                                                                                             | Don't Know                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <div style="width: 3.08%;"></div>  | 3.08%            | 4              |
|                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                    | answered         | 130            |
|                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                    | skipped          | 0              |
| If you have answered No to the above question, please give your reasons why (14)                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                    |                  |                |
| 1                                                                                                                                             | Should be all vehicles because of affordability                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                    |                  |                |
| 2                                                                                                                                             | Na                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                    |                  |                |
| 3                                                                                                                                             | <p>The longevity of the vehicle engine and emmissions output bares no relation to the condition of the vehicle interior, used by the passengers.</p> <p>Vehicle age and condition need ti be assesed</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                    |                  |                |
| 4                                                                                                                                             | <p>I am sorry but the drivers/associations that have called for this are STUPID!</p> <p>Although, extending the useability of a vehicle by a year sounds like a good idea, they have all missed the point completely. The real issue is, NOT the endpoint, it IS the start point or entry point as I like to call it. We need to make it cheaper to enter into licensing, so my opinion is that we should lower the initial licensing age and then cut off at 12-15 years irrespective of condition. We should adopt what has been so successful with Wolverhampton and allow any age vehicle up to a maximum of 12-15 years.</p> |                                    |                  |                |

**1. Do you agree with the proposed renewal age limits set out above for vehicles that are fully powered by electricity or hydrogen fuel cells?**

- |    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5  | Taxi and private hire vehicles do more miles than the average family car and without a council backed service and maintenance scheme in place may lead to high mileage poorly maintained vehicles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 6  | The cars on the road now are often in poor condition interior wise, how do we know they are mechanically safe?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 7  | EVs have already proven to be less reliable and more prone to fire than other vehicles. When they do catch fire, the risk to passengers is far greater than normal cars, also to put out. The batteries will be lucky to last 7 years, let alone the proposed increase.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 8  | <p>The amount of wear and tear on cars that age is considerable. The amount of taxis, and private hire cars that fail inspections already (when they are done) as reported in local papers is a ridiculously high percentage (circa 20%+) if I recall correctly from last article I read in either the Advertiser or Standard.</p> <p>This indicates to me that these types of vehicles are not being sufficiently looked after. Therefore the increased risk of serious failures of these vehicles is greatly increased in my opinion.</p> <p>If anything the age of cars used for taxi or private hire should be considerably reduced to aid maintaining a safe fleet.</p> |
| 9  | This will push prices up. My disabled mom already struggles to afford a taxi.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 10 | Insufficient safety enforcement checks done.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 11 | 16 year old vehicles are very old                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 12 | The standard of some/many (but not all) are already poor, some very poor, to the point they shouldn't be allowed on the road at all, let alone carry paying passengers. The ages of these cars are already less the current limits. These vehicles should be checked randomly on a much more regular basis.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 13 | These vehicles are usually extremely high mileage and the age of the vehicle is irrelevant. If anything it should be reduced so all vehicles are the same. Increasing it increases the risk of something else on the vehicle breaking.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 14 | <p>I do not agree with the proposed limits because I believe the age limits should be increased further. The condition, safety, and maintenance history of a vehicle are more important than its age alone. Many well-maintained electric and hydrogen vehicles remain safe, reliable, and suitable for licensed use beyond the proposed age limits.</p> <p>Allowing vehicles to remain licensed for longer, subject to passing all required inspections and safety tests, would help operators manage costs and make better use of existing vehicles while continuing to provide a safe service to the public.</p>                                                          |

#### 4. Category B and BX - Ultra-low Emission Vehicles

The Council is proposing that for vehicles that are ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEV), the licence renewal age limits should be increased by one year as follows:

Category B - vehicles that are ultra-low emission vehicles that are NOT wheelchair accessible vehicles - Under 14 years of age

Category BX - vehicles that are ultra-low emission vehicles that ARE wheelchair accessible vehicles - Under 16 years of age

Please note, in this context, an ultra-low emission vehicle is one having less than 75 grams of CO2 per kilometre (g/km) from the tail pipe.

| 2. Do you agree with the proposed renewal age limits set out above for vehicles that are ultra-low emission vehicles? |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                    |                  |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Answer Choices                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                    | Response Percent | Response Total |
| 1                                                                                                                     | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  | 85.38%           | 111            |
| 2                                                                                                                     | No                                                                                                                                                                                                       |   | 12.31%           | 16             |
| 3                                                                                                                     | Don't Know                                                                                                                                                                                               |   | 2.31%            | 3              |
|                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                    | answered         | 130            |
|                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                    | skipped          | 0              |
| If you have answered No to the above question, please give your reasons why (16)                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                    |                  |                |
| 1                                                                                                                     | All vehicles                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                    |                  |                |
| 2                                                                                                                     | I think it should be the same across the board                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                    |                  |                |
| 3                                                                                                                     | Na                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                    |                  |                |
| 4                                                                                                                     | I would like to see ultra low emission category B vehicle increasing by 2 years rather than 1 year,                                                                                                      |                                                                                    |                  |                |
| 5                                                                                                                     | If the vehicle is in good condition and has passed taxi safety tests I think it should be longer. The decision could be down to the who's doing the taxi safety tests as they see the vehicle regularly. |                                                                                    |                  |                |
| 6                                                                                                                     | The longevity of the vehicle engine and emmissions output bares no relation to the condition of the vehicle interior, used by the passengers.<br><br>Vehicle age and condition need to be assesed        |                                                                                    |                  |                |
| 7                                                                                                                     | Previous comments apply to all sections                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                    |                  |                |
| 8                                                                                                                     | Unless a VAT garage provides a proof of service and maintenance for pay and reward vehicles it may result in higher mileage vehicles that have poor service records.                                     |                                                                                    |                  |                |
| 9                                                                                                                     | Same as before ... they need more spot checks for road worthiness                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                    |                  |                |

## 2. Do you agree with the proposed renewal age limits set out above for vehicles that are ultra-low emission vehicles?

|    |                                                                                                                                              |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10 | I have seen first hand the poor state of repair of the redditch taxi fleet. Any increase of vehicle age will only make this situation worse. |
| 11 | For exactly the same reasons as given previously.                                                                                            |
| 12 | As previous                                                                                                                                  |
| 13 | as before                                                                                                                                    |
| 14 | Thats an old vehicle                                                                                                                         |
| 15 | As per previous comments                                                                                                                     |
| 16 | Same as previous                                                                                                                             |

## 5. Category C and CX - vehicles meeting Euro 6 (diesel) and Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards

The Council is proposing that for vehicles that MEET Euro 6 (diesel) and Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards, the licence renewal age limits should be increased by one year as follows:

Category C - vehicles that meet Euro 6 (diesel) or Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards that are NOT wheelchair accessible vehicles - Under 12 years of age

Category CX - vehicles that meet Euro 6 (diesel) or Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards that ARE wheelchair accessible vehicles - Under 14 years of age

## 3. Do you agree with the proposed renewal age limits set out for vehicles which meet Euro 6 (diesel) and Euro 4 (petrol)?

| Answer Choices |            |                                                                                      | Response Percent | Response Total |
|----------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1              | Yes        |  | 82.31%           | 107            |
| 2              | No         |   | 14.62%           | 19             |
| 3              | Don't Know |   | 3.08%            | 4              |
|                |            |                                                                                      | answered         | 130            |
|                |            |                                                                                      | skipped          | 0              |

If you have answered No to the above question, please give your reasons why (18)

|   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | All vehicles                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 2 | Prices are increasing across all sectors, including the automotive industry. However, the rising cost of vehicles has made it increasingly difficult for consumers to afford new cars. At the same time, there has been a noticeable decline in the use of taxi services, likely due to overall financial pressures and reduced discretionary spending |

### 3. Do you agree with the proposed renewal age limits set out for vehicles which meet Euro 6 (diesel) and Euro 4 (petrol)?

- |    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3  | I think all vehicle age should be scrapped!! Otherwise every single hackney carriage licence holder will be leaving due to wolverhampton and uber, age restriction should be lifted immediately as in this day and age the cars are in very good condition and very well maintained                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 4  | N/a                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 5  | I would appreciate if you could give an extra 2 years rather than 1 year, with the price of fuel and the financial crisis it's extremely difficult to be replacing perfectly good vehicles which have maintained to a high standards, just because of their age, hope you understand, thanks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 6  | If the vehicle is in good condition and it's passed all the Taxi safety test and I think it should be given longer and ultimately down to the person who's doing the test testing as they see the car regularly                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 7  | The longevity of the vehicle engine and emissions output bears no relation to the condition of the vehicle interior, used by the passengers.<br><br>Vehicle age and condition need to be assessed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 8  | With the current cost of living this should be increased to 14 years for both types vehicles. There is high level of out of town drivers that it's becoming difficult to earn minimum wage as a taxi driver in Redditch.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 9  | Previous comments apply to all sections                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10 | I currently drive an 11 year old private hire Citroen dispatch which has one row removed for the wheelchair accessible option which we use daily.<br>Having worked in this sector now for numerous years I've seen some of the maintenance for these vehicles be below par and what I would call, glued back together!<br>However the vehicle drives and does as it should yes I often have lights pop up on the dash, amber ones which I always report but the problems always come back!<br>I feel the age of 15-14 is too high I'm averaging 700 miles a week on private hire the vans headed towards 150k now and things fall off it regularly.<br>I feel 10 years on most cars is reasonable but stuff that has to work harder like wheelchair access vehicles are under more stress due to extra weight of in my case electric wheelchair, plus the roads are terrible and parts do fall off get stuck back on and then fall off again a few weeks later.<br>In summary I'd like to see vast improvements over the board as these vehicles carry children most of the time and would you feel comfortable putting your child into an old car or van and trusting that something could happen!? The risk is always there! Obviously newer cars and vans bring better safety but I believe as a service it should be that safety is up there and something that corners should not be cut on just to scrape another year out of a vehicle for sake of buying a new one! |

### 3. Do you agree with the proposed renewal age limits set out for vehicles which meet Euro 6 (diesel) and Euro 4 (petrol)?

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11 | Servicing and maintenance issues unless its carried out by a VAT registered garage.                                                                                              |
| 12 | I have seen first hand the poor state of repair of the redditch taxi fleet. Any increase of vehicle age will only make this situation worse.                                     |
| 13 | As answered before, plus Euro 4 vehicles should not be allowed in the fleet. Euro 7 is now on a lot of petrol cars and to say Euro 4 is acceptable for this fleet is ridiculous. |
| 14 | As previous                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 15 | as before                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 16 | About the limit of how old a car should be                                                                                                                                       |
| 17 | As per previous comments                                                                                                                                                         |
| 18 | Keep as is                                                                                                                                                                       |

### 6. Category D and DX - Vehicles that do NOT meet Euro 6 (diesel) or Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards

The Council is proposing that for vehicles that DO NOT MEET Euro 6 (diesel) and Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards, the licence renewal age limits should be increased by one year as follows:

Category D - vehicles that DO NOT MEET Euro 6 (diesel) or Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards that are NOT wheelchair accessible vehicles - Under 11 years of age

Category DX - vehicles that DO NOT MEET Euro 6 (diesel) or Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards that ARE wheelchair accessible vehicles - Under 14 years of age

### 4. Do you agree with the proposed renewal age limit set out for vehicles that DO NOT MEET Euro 6 (diesel) and Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards?

| Answer Choices |            |                                                                                      | Response Percent | Response Total |
|----------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1              | Yes        |  | 80.77%           | 105            |
| 2              | No         |   | 14.62%           | 19             |
| 3              | Don't know |   | 4.62%            | 6              |
|                |            |                                                                                      | answered         | 130            |
|                |            |                                                                                      | skipped          | 0              |

If you have answered No to the above question, please give your reasons why (16)

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1 | All vehicles |
|---|--------------|

**4. Do you agree with the proposed renewal age limit set out for vehicles that DO NOT MEET Euro 6 (diesel) and Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards?**

- |    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2  | Prices are increasing across all sectors, including the automotive industry. However, the rising cost of vehicles has made it increasingly difficult for consumers to afford new cars. At the same time, there has been a noticeable decline in the use of taxi services, likely due to overall financial pressures and reduced discretionary spending                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 3  | I think age restriction should be lifted otherwise we all drivers who hold hackney carriage will soon leave towards wolverhampton as they will soon be lifting age restrictions, you will lose all revenue                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 4  | N/a                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 5  | If the car is in good condition and it's past its Taxi safety test, then I think it should be a longer working in life, but ultimately it's down to the person who is doing the regular Taxi tests                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 6  | <p>The longevity of the vehicle engine and emissions output bears no relation to the condition of the vehicle interior, used by the passengers.</p> <p>Vehicle age and condition need to be assessed</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 7  | Previous comments apply to all sections                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 8  | <p>I currently drive an 11 year old private hire Citroen dispatch which has one row removed for the wheelchair accessible option which we use daily.</p> <p>Having worked in this sector now for numerous years I've seen some of the maintenance for these vehicles be below par and what I would call, glued back together!</p> <p>However the vehicle drives and does as it should yes I often have lights pop up on the dash, amber ones which I always report but the problems always come back!</p> <p>I feel the age of 15-14 is too high I'm averaging 700 miles a week on private hire the vans headed towards 150k now and things fall off it regularly.</p> <p>I feel 10 years on most cars is reasonable but stuff that has to work harder like wheelchair access vehicles are under more stress due to extra weight of in my case electric wheelchair, plus the roads are terrible and parts do fall off get stuck back on and then fall off again a few weeks later.</p> <p>In summary I'd like to see vast improvements over the board as these vehicles carry children most of the time and would you feel comfortable putting your child into an old car or van and trusting that something could happen!? The risk is always there! Obviously newer cars and vans bring better safety but I believe as a service it should be that safety is up there and something that corners should not be cut on just to scrape another year out of a vehicle for sake of buying a new one!</p> |
| 9  | 2 years would be better as, there, been high costs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 10 | Higher mileage which could lead to more defects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

**4. Do you agree with the proposed renewal age limit set out for vehicles that DO NOT MEET Euro 6 (diesel) and Euro 4 (petrol) emission standards?**

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|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11 | I have seen first hand the poor state of repair of the redditch taxi fleet. Any increase of vehicle age will only make this situation worse.                                                               |
| 12 | As answered before.                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 13 | Every effort should be made by public bodies to improve air quality; I would therefore oppose increasing the renewal age of non-compliant vehicles and would suggest an actual reduction to the age limit. |
| 14 | as before                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 15 | Red to push to get rid of older cars                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 16 | As per previous comments                                                                                                                                                                                   |

**7. Any other comments?**

**5. Do you have any other comments you wish to make in connection with this matter?**

| Answer Choices |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Response Percent | Response Total |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1              | Open-Ended Question                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 100.00%          | 42             |
| 1              | All vehicles should be extended to 2029 wait to see what government new legislation is regarding electric cars                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                  |                |
| 2              | I think when first renewal vehicle buying should be more than 7 years old as it dosent depend on age how good a vehicle is it depends on the condition of the vehicle should be raised to another year aswell                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                  |                |
| 3              | I personally think that the age should be the same across the board.<br><br>I don't understand why make things complicated.<br><br>Policy should be put in place that will try and keep drivers rather than moving n to other authorities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                  |                |
| 4              | I personally think age resticuon should be completely lifited, nowadays cars are very well build and looked aftered, all hackney cariedrivers will soon leave to wolverhampton as they will be soon lifiting age restrinctions, we all drivers have newer cars yet we have no taxi rank and hardly any work as uber has taken all work and drivers who have wolverhampton licences are doing well, if thisnis going to cost RBC alot in revenue losses as there is no benifit having brand new cars and no ranks to work from. Redditch has lost already loads to wolverhampton and yet still more is to come! Redditch needs to get rid of age restictions completely to attract more<br>Revenue and by elimtinating wolverhampton and encourage local taxi firms so it can counter attack uber |                  |                |
| 5              | N/a                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                  |                |

**5. Do you have any other comments you wish to make in connection with this matter?**

- |    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6  | Should be extended as most vehicles even at that age and mileage are in good condition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 7  | Instead of giving a year and making it look like your doing something. Make it equal and give us the same costs and years as Wolverhampton council is giving it's drivers. There are more drivers switching over to Wolverhampton day by day. More Wolverhampton plated drivers are now working in Redditch than Redditch plated drivers.                |
| 8  | Please consider increasing the age limit by more than one year, With the financial crisis and fuel costs it is extremely difficult to be replacing perfectly good vehicles which are maintained to a very high standard because of their age, hopefully you will understand the circumstances, thank you for asking for my feedback, highly appreciated. |
| 9  | Yes do should offer uber Redditch driver since uber came private hire don't earn that much money uber to be fair half taxi don't understand health safety rulers for customers loads coming from Wolverhampton taxi plate doing job our area don't agree them                                                                                            |
| 10 | I regularly have my car serviced and it's kept very clean and tidy. I would like to keep my car for another couple of years at least and I would be happy for the person who does the Taxi safety test to decide if it's appropriate.                                                                                                                    |
| 11 | The age of executive vehicle when entered as new vehicle should be increased and extra 2 years of time it can serve                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 12 | It's good you are bringing the age up another year as it good for us and it's sometimes hard to afford another car and gives more time to make money to buy another vehicle .                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 13 | 14 and 16 years life for a taxi is a a big call, condition if vehicle must be a consideration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 14 | These new rules will make it a lot easier for drivers as car prices are much higher if you try to buy a new vehicle to put into taxis now. This will ease pressure on drivers and avoid drivers leaving to other councils.                                                                                                                               |
| 15 | Would take a lot of pressure of drivers buying a new vehicle as costs have gone up massively.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 16 | <p>Make taxi plating affordable and most councils are doing 10years taxi age limit and make easy for drivers</p> <p>The fees should also be reduced as with how work is and fuel prices we feel that some leeway should be given to taxi drivers</p>                                                                                                     |
| 17 | The council should revise the age limit vehicle for new applications, especially as Wolverhampton vehicles are driving around the borough in older priuses and only get tested once a year. As long as the vehicle passes its inspections , luxury cars such as BMW, Mercedes, audi etc should be allowed to be plated                                   |

5. Do you have any other comments you wish to make in connection with this matter?

- |    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18 | The council needs to do more for the drivers , especially monitor the lack of control on out of town uber drivers. The cost of living has gone up and wages are going down . It helps to increase the vehicle ages but not enough is being done to support local drivers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 19 | Previous comments apply to all sections                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 20 | <p>I also believe that, considering the fees we pay for licence renewals and other costs, taxis from Birmingham and Wolverhampton should not be allowed to operate under Redditch Council. Many of these drivers are working through Uber and Bolt, and have also registered with Redditch taxi firms, taking a large share of the jobs.</p> <p>This has left local Redditch drivers struggling to earn a living, which I do not think is fair. Worcestershire Council should take action on this issue, as Redditch drivers are finding it increasingly difficult to meet their basic needs.And if possible the council should also consider allowing the Redditch drivers to sign up to uber and bolt as well.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> |
| 21 | I'd like to see better vehicles being used for safety purposes especially on private hire while carrying children 14-15 years old is too much wear and tear on a vehicle please look at how technology improves safety and keeping children safe and the roads safer from mechanical failures should be paramount!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 22 | It's a great thing if you do this because we can buy low milage cars a little bit older and cheaper                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 23 | As long as cars pass the safety inspection by the council, does age really matter ? Mechanically safe car is more important than an aestectically pleasing car. One may argue you can have both, but realistically it's driving people away from the trade, snd to seek licences which are more logical with current climate , from different boroughs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 24 | I feel all vehicles that I utilised and licenced to carry fare paying passengers should be subject to a proper service and repair history by a council registered repairer who are VAT registered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 25 | There are also many taxis licensed elsewhere and used in Redditch ... that needs to be stopped                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 26 | From my limited knowledge i am pretty sure vehicles are inspected by the council. Therefore I believe that these decisions should be made in partnership with the drivers. Asking the general public who do not understand the licensing conditions and how vehicles are regulated etc, may lead to lack of productive responses.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

5. Do you have any other comments you wish to make in connection with this matter?

- 27 Given the poor state of the current redditch taxis, surely having older vehicles will only make this worse? A better solution would be to insist on newer, cleaner more reliable vehicles. More frequent vehicle checks would also be a good idea, over the winter I saw a number of redditch taxis with only one headlight working, this is such a simple thing, but something a profesional driver should be spotting straight away.
- 28 To many of the taxis and private hire vehicles operating Redditch are unsafe already.  
Stronger and more regular enforcement of vehicles and drivers should be undertaken to make fleet safer.  
Absolutely no way should age of any vehicle classification be increased,
- 29 We need more diversity and inclusion in taxi drivers. Impossible to get a taxi to hospital during Eid. Missed my appointment.
- 30 Yes, licensing staff are now at an all time low in numbers. This needs addressing before increasing the age limits on HC/PH vehicles.  
  
Regular, well publicised enforcement nights need to be done to make sure the licensed drivers maintain their cars properly.  
  
Previous enforcement nights have found many cars in a very poor and unsafe state.
- 31 Under the current financial constraints (Cost of Living and fuel prices) we should increase the renewal of the most common type of Hackney & Private Hire vehicle on the road by 1 year to keep them in Redditch or they will simply go to competitors such as Uber etc
- 32 This should also have a mileage based limit and not just an age.
- 33 There should really be no age limits - as long as the vehicle passes the safety test they should be allowed to be used as a taxi - especially in this climate- where the fuel is really expensive and newer cars are more expensive on the insurance
- 34 Cars should be 12 years old or more for licencing because the fares are low and you want new cars with people cant afford.
- 35 I just like to thank you to honor our opinion, and it is very initiative to help the drivers, as, ew cars are quire expensive.
- 36 As a licensed private hire operator, I believe that vehicle age alone should not be the primary factor in determining whether a vehicle can continue to be licensed. The most important considerations should be vehicle condition, safety, maintenance history, and the ability to pass the Council's inspection and testing requirements.  
  
Many vehicles remain safe, reliable, comfortable, and suitable for public hire well beyond the proposed age limits. Modern vehicles are built to a much higher standard than in previous decades, and operators invest

**5. Do you have any other comments you wish to make in connection with this matter?**

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | <p>significant amounts of money maintaining their vehicles to ensure they meet licensing requirements and provide a professional service to passengers.</p> <p>Restrictive age limits can place a significant financial burden on drivers and operators, particularly small businesses, forcing the replacement of vehicles that remain mechanically sound and fully compliant with safety standards. This can increase costs for both operators and passengers without delivering a corresponding improvement in safety.</p> <p>I would encourage the Council to place greater emphasis on vehicle condition and inspection results rather than imposing strict age limits. Any vehicle that continues to meet the required safety, emissions, and licensing standards should be permitted to remain licensed regardless of age.</p> <p>This approach would support local operators, reduce unnecessary vehicle replacement, promote affordability within the trade, and still ensure the highest standards of passenger safety are maintained.</p> |
| 37 | <p>Majority of vehicles are well maintained and lasting longer and drivers are regularly requesting extensions. Therefore only makes sense to ease the burden on the workload and the whole process is to increase the age limit across all vehicles.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 38 | <p>Until there are universal equal rules that covers the UK it does not make much difference what Worcestershire allows<br/>         With 34,000 Vehicles and 50,000 drivers licenced in Wolverhampton that flood into others Counties ( 95% )<br/>         It makes what Worcestershire does as insignificant<br/>         Personally I will be looking to hand back my licences within the next 12 months due to unacceptable competition</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 39 | <p>Drivers that are required to buy new vehicles are currently facing huge costs especially for diesel powered cars. We as a trade would recommend that we should be allowed to have cars upto 8years old instead of the current 7 year old rule.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 40 | <p>Hi nice decision</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 41 | <p>Vehicles are very expensive and there is already limited work for Taxi income. Allowing vehicles to be one year older helps keep current vehicles longer</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 42 | <p>I have been a licensed Hackney Carriage driver for over 17 years and, during this time, I have seen significant increases in the cost of purchasing vehicles, as well as ongoing expenses such as maintenance, fuel and insurance.<br/>         Due to these rising costs, I believe the current vehicle age policy should be reviewed to make it more sustainable for drivers and more beneficial for Redditch Borough Council.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

## 5. Do you have any other comments you wish to make in connection with this matter?

At present, Redditch policy allows vehicles to be licensed only if they are Euro 6 compliant and no older than 7 years at the point of first licensing. I feel this restriction is too limiting given the current economic pressures. I propose that:

Vehicles should be eligible to be first licensed at up to 10 years old, provided they meet all safety and compliance standards.  
Vehicles should then be allowed to remain licensed until they reach 12 years old, after which they would no longer be eligible.

This approach would bring several benefits:

Improved affordability for drivers, reducing the financial burden of frequent vehicle replacement

Retention of local licence holders, as drivers would be less inclined to plate vehicles with other councils

Increased revenue for Redditch Borough Council, as more drivers would choose to remain licensed locally

Continued public safety, as vehicles would still need to pass all required inspections and compliance checks

Currently, neighbouring authorities such as Wolverhampton, Solihull and Dudley have more flexible or no strict age limits, making them more attractive for drivers from Redditch. This results in drivers licensing vehicles outside the borough, leading to a loss of potential income for Redditch Borough Council.

By increasing the maximum entry age and introducing a reasonable upper age limit, Redditch could create a fairer and more competitive system that supports both drivers and the local authority.

I respectfully ask that the council consider reviewing and updating the current policy in light of these factors.

|          |    |
|----------|----|
| answered | 42 |
| skipped  | 88 |

## 8. About You

### 6. In what capacity are you responding to this consultation (select all that apply):

| Answer Choices |                                                 |                                                                                      | Response Percent | Response Total |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1              | Licensed hackney carriage / private hire driver |  | 80.77%           | 105            |
| 2              | Licensed private hire operator                  |   | 12.31%           | 16             |
| 3              | Councillor                                      |   | 2.31%            | 3              |

**6. In what capacity are you responding to this consultation (select all that apply):**

|                             |                             |                                                                                   |          |     |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----|
| 4                           | Member of the public        |  | 14.62%   | 19  |
| 5                           | Other (please specify):     |  | 1.54%    | 2   |
|                             |                             |                                                                                   | answered | 130 |
|                             |                             |                                                                                   | skipped  | 0   |
| Other (please specify): (2) |                             |                                                                                   |          |     |
| 1                           | RTA                         |                                                                                   |          |     |
| 2                           | Traffic Management Advisor. |                                                                                   |          |     |