

APPENDIX A: North Devon Vehicle Standards Amendment Options

Option 1: Amended Age restriction

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Standard First License (Except wheelchair accessible and Ultra-low/ zero emission vehicles):

Vehicles must be less than 4 years old when presented for first licensing *and have a Euro NCAP star ratings of 4 or more.*

Additionally a first licence may be issued to a vehicle that is more than four but less than five years old provided a comprehensive report into the mechanical fitness of the vehicle has been undertaken by the AA, RAC, or DEKRA, or any other approved engineer, and any essential works identified have been carried out and evidence provided to establish this. An application for the grant of a first licence where the vehicle in question is more than 5 years old, shall not be granted. However the applicant will be given the right to apply for the application to be considered by a licensing sub-committee if they feel that their particular circumstances justify a deviation from the existing Policies.

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Renewal:

Vehicles presented for renewal that are less than 9 years old can be renewed by Licensing Officers under delegated powers.

Vehicles presented for renewal that are between 9 and 10 years old can be renewed by Licensing Officers under delegated powers provided that the vehicle is presented for inspection in a satisfactory condition, and the vehicle has passed its vehicle renewal inspection.

Vehicles presented for renewal that are more than 10 years old will be referred to the licensing sub-committee for determination. Such applications should be submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the expiry date on the licence, as it may take several weeks to convene a licensing sub-committee. Applicants will be advised to provide a comprehensive report into the mechanical fitness of the vehicle as outlined above.

Vehicle Standard: Wheelchair Accessible and Ultra-low/ zero emission vehicles:

North Devon District Council recognises its responsibility in contributing to the protection of the environment, and also to ensuring that the Hackney carriage and private hire trade are accessible to all members of the community. It is therefore the intention of this policy to incentivise the licensing of both wheelchair accessible and ultra-low/ zero emission vehicles. This policy recognises that both of these types of vehicle can involve additional costs to the proprietor in either purchasing or running these types of vehicle, and as such the age restriction for these vehicles has been amended from that for other vehicle types as follows:

Wheelchair accessible and ultra-low/ zero emission vehicles must be less than 6/7 years old at first licensing.

Additionally, whilst there is currently no upper age limit for the renewal of wheelchair accessible and ultra-low/ zero emission vehicles, these vehicles will still be required to pass the Council's vehicle inspection on a twelve-month basis until the vehicle is 6/7 years old, and thereafter every six months.

Option 2: Emission Standard restriction

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Standard First License (Except wheelchair accessible vehicles):

With effect from *1st April 2022* for all new vehicles plated for the first time by the Council (including existing proprietors on the change of vehicle), proprietors will be required to comply with the following condition(s):

Vehicles must have a Euro 6 emission standard or above, *and have a Euro NCAP star ratings of 4 or more.*

Vehicle Standard: Wheelchair Accessible vehicles:

North Devon District Council recognises its responsibility in ensuring that the Hackney carriage and private hire trade are accessible to all members of the community. It is therefore the intention of this policy to incentivise the licensing of wheelchair accessible vehicles. This policy recognises that these types of vehicle can involve additional costs to the proprietor in either purchasing or running costs, and as such the emissions restriction above has been amended for wheelchair accessible vehicles to Euro 5 or higher emission standard.

Additionally, whilst there is currently no upper age limit for the renewal of wheelchair accessible and ultra-low/ zero emission vehicles, these vehicles will still be required to pass the Council's vehicle inspection on a twelve-month basis until the vehicle is 6/7 years old, and thereafter every six months.

Explanation of Euro Standards (Source RAC Website):

My car newly registered from:	Emissions standard
31 December 1992	Euro 1
1 January 1997	Euro 2
1 January 2001	Euro 3
1 January 2006	Euro 4

My car newly registered from:	Emissions standard
1 January 2011	Euro 5
1 September 2015 - but see important note below	Euro 6

Important note: Individual vehicles already on sale that were built by, and dispatched from, the manufacturer before 1st June 2015 can continue to be sold until 1st September 2016'. This in effect means that a car sold before 1st September 2016 may still have a Euro 5 engine. Check with the manufacturer to be certain.