

APPENDIX A

North Devon Council Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy Extract

Age, Experience and Qualification standards

Whilst there are no age restrictions imposed, the Licensing Authority shall not grant a licence to drive a Hackney Carriage to any person unless they have held a full driving licence for a period of one year and have passed a qualification listed in A and B below:

A

- Driving standard assessment equivalent to the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency taxi driving assessment , or
- The Public Carrying Vehicles Test (or an equivalent or higher qualification as approved by the Authority).

B

- BTEC Level 2 Certificate in the Introduction to the Role of the Professional Taxi and Private Hire Driver (previously named the BTEC Intermediate Award in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire), or
- A North Devon Council approved New Taxi/Private Hire Driver Training Course
- ~~The Edexcel Level 2 NVQ in Road Passenger Vehicle Driving (Community, Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Vehicles and Chauffeurs), or~~
- ~~The Edexcel Level 2 NVQ in Passenger Carrying Vehicle Driving, or~~
- An equivalent or higher qualification as approved by the Authority.

Although existing drivers are not required to undertake and pass the BTEC Intermediate Award in Transporting Passengers by Taxi and Private Hire, they are encouraged to undertake and pass these tests.

With effect from 1st March 2022 all prospective applicants for dual Hackney carriage/ private hire drivers licences will within 12 months of the licence being granted, provide documentary evidence of completing North Devon Council approved child sexual exploitation and safeguarding awareness training.

With effect from 7th November 2022 all licensed taxi and private hire drivers must have undertaken or be booked onto North Devon Council approved Child Sexual Exploitation and Safeguarding training prior to the 1st January 2023.

It should be noted that existing drivers who fail to make their renewal application on time will be treated as a grant application. All drivers are advised to place their licence expiry in their diary and to apply for their driver's renewal in good time.