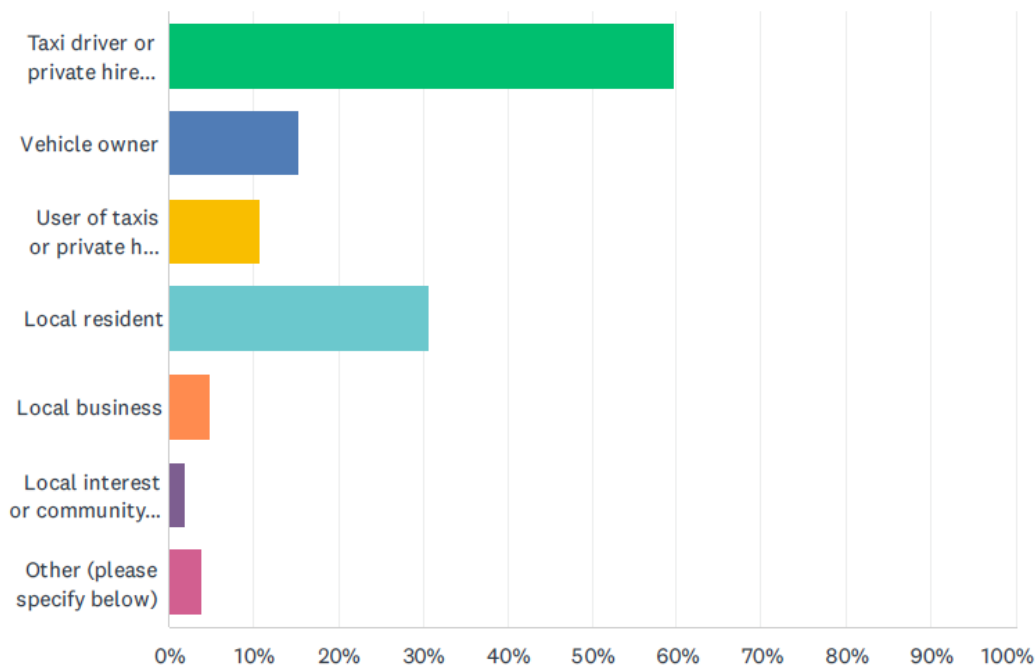


HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE AGE LIMITS SURVEY

CONSULTATION RESULTS

Details of respondents, I am responding as:



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Taxi driver or private hire driver	59.62% 62
Vehicle owner	15.38% 16
User of taxis or private hire vehicles	10.58% 11
Local resident	30.77% 32
Local business	4.81% 5
Local interest or community group (please specify below)	1.92% 2
Other (please specify below)	3.85% 4
Total Respondents: 104	

#	PLEASE SPECIFY (IF APPLICABLE)	DATE
1	Worcester City Cllr	4/12/2023 8:08 AM
2	Police Licensing Officer	4/11/2023 11:12 AM
3	City Councillor	4/9/2023 6:59 PM
4	Councillor	4/8/2023 9:51 AM
5	Worcester city driver	3/31/2023 11:00 AM
6	taxi owner operator in Scotland	3/29/2023 8:41 AM

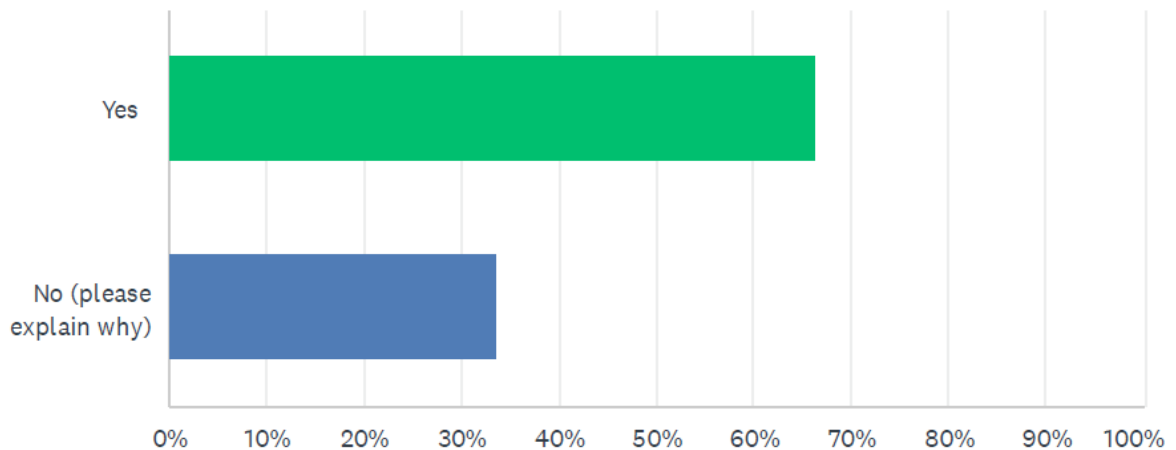
PROPOSAL 1 - ELECTRIC VEHICLES

The Council is proposing that any fully electric vehicle presented for licensing, as either a Hackney Carriage (taxi) or Private Hire vehicle will not be subject to any age restrictions.

It has been cited that this will encourage drivers and vehicle owners to purchase fully electric vehicles.

Q - Do you agree with this proposal

Answered: 104 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	66.35%	69
No (please explain why)	33.65%	35
TOTAL		104

No - Please explain why

1.	Vehicle age, and condition should still be taken into account in all circumstances.
2.	For taxi trade it should be a hybrid taxi where you can drive long hours. only electric cars not good for taxi trade because life of the battery is not enough. Then you have to off from work and finding charging point.
3.	Because there is no infrastructure for electric vehicles. Milage on electric vehicles are restricted so on a busy weekend drivers will be busy charging the vehicle rather than driving it. Plus electric vehicles are more dangerous and cause more problems to the environment than your combustion engine and its scientifically proven.
4.	Electric vehicles are too expensive

5.	I don't see why just because a vehicle is electric, it should be exempt of the licensing requirements adhered to by other taxis. Will it also not be required to follow the same safety policies either then? Where do we draw the line? In my view, with the dangers associated with the batteries in electric cars, they should be assessed more stringently, not less.
6.	In the future, this may be problematic as old vehicles that are not as safe may be used
7.	Vehicles need to be safe. Age criteria should apply to all vehicles.
8.	An EV still deteriorated in terms of condition, brakes etc and in order to ensure that taxis are safe a reduction in age limit is not acceptable.
9.	Unsustainable.
10.	How taxi driver can afford
11.	The cost of purchasing the vehicle is too expensive. Electric have not had, the same research and development as petrol and diesel vehicles.
12.	Hybrid should be included
13.	Electric cars are not reliable because they are not useful for long shifts
14.	Electric vehicle does not cater for customers who might want to be transferred to airports or out of the city boundary, for example a half charged vehicle will need to be charged in a service station and a customer will need to wait and be charged for wait time, this sort of vehicle is a problem for the trade
15.	Will be very hard for the taxi trade. Will possibly kill the trade off
16.	Its not viable at this present time to buy electric car too expensive
17.	Council also need to look into getting hybrid vehicles as some electric vehicle gives you about 200 miles from the full charge depending on the weather and time as everything works on batteries if you driving in cold rainy weather at night it will give you lesser mileage as lights heating and viper all draining batteries for an instance trip to London could take you too long to complete compare to hybrid or fuel driven cars
18.	Electric vehicles are really expensive
19.	I think some drivers will not be able to keep their taxis in good working order if they don't have an age limit. I think it should be limited to 15 yrs.
20.	Electric vehicles doesn't give enough mileage to cover 1 shift work pulse they are too expensive
21.	Too expensive to buy
22.	Too expensive
23.	Electric vehicles still unsustainable from an earnings point of view and the high upfront cost is not able to be negated from the availability of work within Worcester
24.	Older Vehicles could be brought in.

25.	However the council should incentivise the scheme as those vehicle are expensive and work is not busy - eg get funding from central government or no fees for 4 years. There are not a lot of electric wheelchair vehicles so driver should be given the choice to get non wheelchair access. Majority of the taxi are Peugeot partners which are wheelchair access I would like to get a plug in hybrid or fully electric however due to market not having such option I'm stuck with a diesel car. It's not very comfortable for passengers too . Drivers should be given the choice to choose a saloon car or wheelchair access when they present a new car to licence
26.	No
27.	The charging not enough charging points
28.	Some cars half electric and they are 15 years old so electric vehicles should be no more then8 years old
29.	No
30.	Currently there is not enough choice off electric Hackney vehicles and they are to expensive to buy
31.	Issue with long distance jobs, for example now if I go to London Heathrow, I can come bk on half a tank of fuel, if it was a electric car I would need to pay for parking and charging , wait more that an hour before coming back, I will be losing out time and money. also issue with with charging points on ranks and outside houses, not all drivers have driveways so they msy not a parking spot outside their houses. Price cost electric cars are very expensive, battery with will not hold as much range as much as it would be shown, because taxi are used a lot more than private vehicles. Heaters, lights radio will reduce the battery life.
32.	No unfortunately due to the hours drivers work and the charge timing for vehicles this isn't available option at all. The cost of any fully electric vehicle isn't cheap whether its a larger people carrier or a saloon. If there isn't an age limit the problem is older electric vehicles won't might be slightly cheaper but more likely to encounter problems with the batteries etc So doesn't make sense at all
33.	Too expensive
34.	The reasons cited would to me support extending the age restrictions, not removing them entirely. Particularly ss. Why not set that at 10-15 years which allows for a review later?
35.	Because there's already a 2 year age difference between hackney and PH replacement vehicles. Due to the cost of the vehicles virtually nobody can afford them as the cost is treble that of anormal cab or PH

PLEASE INDICATE WHAT YOU THINK MAY BE A SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE TO:

The lower vehicle age limit (this is the maximum age at which a vehicle can be presented to the council for the first time),

Or:

The upper vehicle age limit (this is the maximum age which a vehicle can continue to be licensed as a taxi with the council)?

Answered: 27 Skipped: 77

Responses

1.	The criteria for vehicles should be overall condition (mechanically, structurally, running gear, interior condition), not age, although age may be a factor in these.
2.	5 years old
3.	Lower the age limit so instead of 3 years allow 5yrs.
4.	I think 10 years is an acceptable maximum age limit.
5.	Upper age limit is fine
6.	Always need an age limit, no alternative
7.	Neither
8.	Vehicles should be have MOT and should be regularly checked for insurance and their licences to avoid corrupt practices.
9.	Over 6 years old for the date of 1st registration. Maximum no limit for expiry
10.	Keep the existing age limit for new vehicles. Extend the life of vehicles.
11.	Hybrid is a solution, however it comes an expensive option and the councils proposal grant is not enough, which will cause financial distress.
12.	5-7 years
13.	Under the current circumstances the council should accommodate the drivers in every way possible as the cost of living is going through the roof I would suggest 5 year old from the first registration and should expiry should be pushed too (Saloon cars should be able to have it licensed up till the age of 10 years side access wheelchair vehicles to 15 years
14.	2 or 3 year criteria is just right
15.	10 years
16.	Under 5-year-old
17.	As long as vehicle passes normal mot or under 5 years old

18.	The Upper Limit.
19.	Modern cars can last longer then 10 years or 8 years for saloon So increase first application to5 years and give 10 plates
20.	Lower the age
21.	Life time
22.	I think this should be five years for first time registering the Hackney vehicle and as long as it's been looked after well it should be continued to be licensed
23.	increases the limits so our car can be used longer, if the taxi is in a good condition.
24.	Make the age for vehicles not the current 3 year old bracket To open and make it so you can at least have vehicles that are up to 5 or even 6 years old
25.	7 years old vehicle
26.	Upper limit of 10-15 years
27.	We in Scotland have a maximum age limit of 10 years 11 months , if a PH vehicle is to be licenced it has to be under 7 years 11 months , a wheelchair accessible hackney or PH can stay on as long as possible as long as they are kept in extremely good order

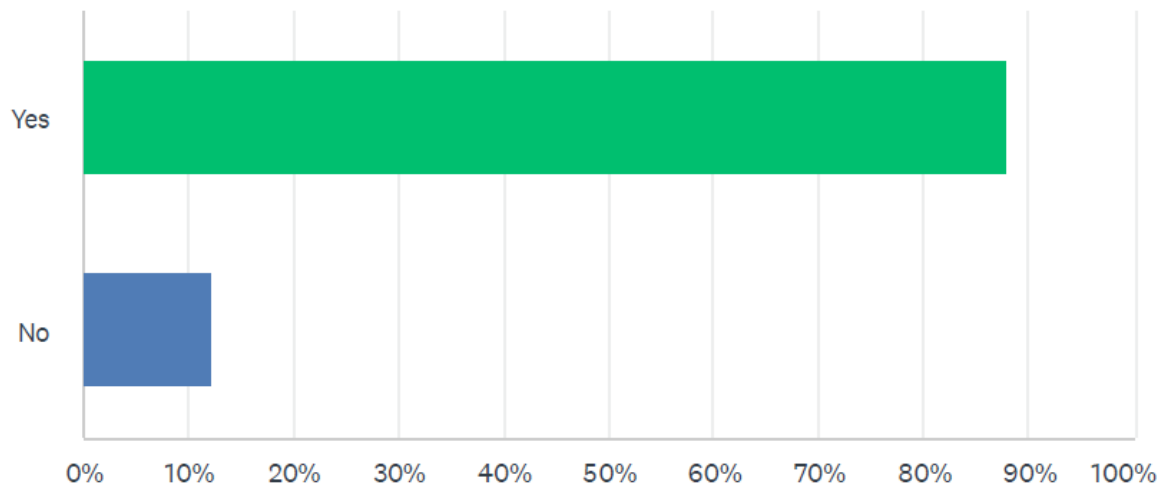
PROPOSAL 2 – HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE (TAXIS) LOWER AGE LIMIT

The Council is proposing to increase the lower vehicle age limit (this is the maximum age at which a vehicle can be presented to the council for the first time) currently 3 years, to 5 years.

It has been cited that this would help drivers and vehicle owners prepare financially for the transition to electric and (or) ultra-low emission vehicles in the future.

Q - Do you agree that the Council should increase the lower vehicle age limit for Hackney carriage vehicles (Taxis) from 3years (currently) to 5years?

Answered: 99 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	87.88% 87
No	12.12% 12
TOTAL	99

Please Provide Reasons for The Answer You Have Given

1.	Vehicles can still be in a good condition at 5 years.
2.	3 years old vehicle are very expensive now
3.	This should be temporary and there should be proof that this is what the individual license holder is intending to do. Otherwise the roads will be flooded with older taxis, and we will be in the same place in 5 years' time.
4.	Well, it makes sense considering the price hike on everything whilst the council is pocketing the profits. It's about time the council stop being crooks.
5.	Cars are now better for the environment than those in the past

6.	I think this is a fair proposal as most cars that are 5 years old have been designed to be economical and have low emissions
7.	It is reasonable to allow Taxi drivers to have the ability to lower the vehicle age limit to allow them to fund newer electric vehicles in the future, provided they are still tied to the twice-yearly vehicle checks and keep the vehicles in good working order as dictated by Road Traffic Act and other legislation.
8.	As suggested, it will give time to prepare, but I think there should be an overall limit on the age of a car being used for reason previously stated
9.	Age criteria should apply
10.	As previously stated, our responsibility is to the safety of passengers, we should not be reducing standards.
11.	if there is no age limit for EVs then those who can't afford new ones can purchase second hand
12.	More then 5 years please in that taxi driver got facility to purchase decent car for his business. I would say council should approved 6years old car as Hackney and 8years old as private hire
13.	Keep the current 3-year rule. Extend the life of each vehicle by 2 years.
14.	Increased car prices have made it impossible to buy hybrid or electric cars as there isn't the same amount of work there was precovid times.
15.	By lowering the age limit it would help taxi driver financially as u know the current market for buying cars it's very expensive specially if u buy a 3 year old. Thank you
16.	The cost-of-living crisis
17.	Cost of living crisis
18.	it's become financially impossible to purchase 3 year old vehicles or newer
19.	Vehicle prices so high
20.	5 year age limit should be increased to 7 years, and should not be allowed to be re used in Wychavon Council plated or another council who operate back in Worcester. They are represent us Worcester when they have no knowledge of the streets.
21.	Majority of taxi drivers I have spoken to are struggling with the cost of living and taxi expenses
22.	Cost of living hardship and debts will make hard for drivers like myself to finance/rent vehicle in current circumstances the price of used vehicles is at a current high level
23.	Cost of living crisis
24.	You are lowering standards which should not happen
25.	The cost of living is too high
26.	With less investment u can buy good car drivers don't have to do extensions on old cars u can maintain the standard

27.	I think lowering the age of the vehicle will benefit the drivers and the the users. drivers will have the option to buy more types of taxis (electric, hybrid, wheel chair accessible) also the cost of the vehicles will make drivers able to change the cars more often making the vehicle standards higher and more environmentally friendly
28.	Because not everyone can afford cars that are only 3 years old especially with the current financial crises that's going on
29.	5 year old vehicles are ulez compliant and little bit cheaper to buy
30.	Financial crisis cost of living
31.	Having an age limit will still mean an electric wheelchair accessible vehicle would still be prohibitively expensive. A 5 year old electric London taxi is still £40000 . No age limit until electric vehicles are more affordable would be a better idea. No age limit does not mean the vehicles are unsafe or dangerous as the safety checks are still carried out twice yearly.
32.	Allows choice of a wider variety of vehicles to be used by taxi drivers as many popular choices are now financially out of reach and are no longer available
33.	This would only bring older hackney vehicles in.
34.	We are going through living crisis and interest rates are on the rise fuel is expensive. So five year would make sense however additional plates should be provide eg if we present 5 year old car then we shouldn't be just left with 5 plates which defeats the objective. Any car presented up to 5 years should get 10 year for 5 or 3 year old , then driver can decide
35.	I think that all vehicles should be in line with Wychavon and an up to 10 years of age should be the policy for non-electric vehicles just because a vehicle is 9 years old doesn't mean it should not be plated you can get very low mileage vehicles that are better presented and looked after than a high mileage under 5 years old perhaps a mileage limit would be more appropriate than age limit
36.	Quick win. Worcester polluted and old vehicles generate a lot of nox, ppms.
37.	It might take some of the older vehicles off the road
38.	3 years age is under warranty and so expensive
39.	As the current situation with the new cars there is a shortage, when we need to be precise about finding the exact under 3 year old for a particular model it is really difficult to find one At least with 5yrs old rule we can have more choice and I believe most drivers will opt for 4yearold or maybe stick with 3 year old as sometimes you can find better deals when the car is let's say 3yrs 2months
40.	Because 1- The 3 year's old too expensive 2 -We can find many car to be wheelchair accessible and under 3 years old 3 - however when I our car finish the age they can use still in Worcester road again in different council, for example Wychavon council ,driver apps and wooper apps using under 10 to 15 years old ,and they're plating again. Thank you
41.	Cost of used vehicles Shortage of new vehicle supply has increased the price for used cars market over the last 4 years
42.	Because vehicles are expensive. And you letting Wychavon vehicles to work in Worcester with old cars and taking our customers away

43.	Keep the costs down
44.	On the basis that the ev rules come in and that there is a max age of a vehicle
45.	If this specifically for electric / ultra low emissions vehicles. Otherwise no.
46.	While the proposal would help drivers and owners still financially recovering from covid lockdowns, I don't think it will help much with purchase of new vehicles (which tend to be bought on credit). Older vehicles are more polluting (not only tailpipe emissions - brake linings etc as well), so should be discouraged.
47.	Yes Both Hackney and PH should be on the same age limit

ANY OTHER COMMENTS?

Do you have any additional comments that you wish to make in connection with this matter?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 79

1.	3 years is still the more desirable option.
2.	Needs to be electronic cable gullies installed in streets where taxi drivers live
3.	No
4.	Happy with this proposal as long as there are regular vehicle interior condition checks as this is what the vehicle age requirement is a proxy for. Also for non-electric vehicles could consider having a minimum vehicle emissions standard for new registrations.
5.	It is important the council provides an age criteria across all vehicle types
6.	While I have some sympathy for taxi drivers and the ever-increasing costs they incur, I do not believe that we should be lowering standards in terms of safety.
7.	Taxis should be made to offer card services so that all customers can use taxis more freely. This would also ensure that they are paying their taxes.
8.	If council want to make this city proud and attractive, then council have to provide and listen trade. Otherwise, city of Worcester people's will suffer their lives because outsiders came as public hires and council doesn't have power to check those drivers. Council have to protect our trade instead putting people's lives . Outsiders as public hire no traceability and more crime
9.	Extend the life of all taxis by 2 years.
10.	I prefer 5 year old vehicle
11.	Electric vehicles are good for local runs but are and will be a problem for long distance journeys and customers will not pay waiting time.
12.	Enforce 6 month vehicle checks more thoroughly to ensure safer taxis for passengers on older cars which are fine to drive when maintained correctly
13.	Inflation in price of vehicles is not being discussed, taxi drivers' income has not increased online with their related expenses
14.	Reduce the amount of taxis in the city!
15.	I feel like me being a Worcester Hackney driver I am paying way more for a taxi then a driver from Wychbold who's implies his/her trade in Worcester and there cars are way older than ours so I feel we should have a bit of a leverage as far as age of cars of concerned
16.	No

17.	We should now be in line with Wychavon licensing for all policies/costs which would then stop cross boarding
18.	Too many cars in W..older cars pollute. Pollution major issue. Better transport needed.
19.	I believe the traditional black cabs should be off the road by now as they are most polluted vehicles in my view with the tx1 model with an engine capacity 2.7litres no Morden technology in reducing the pollution Tx4 was a failure too By the London taxi international Please find the facts and revise the age limit unless you make an infinite number of years for fully electric cabs levc taxi they will stand out and a lot of drivers will go for the electric London cabs it's one of the best cabs made engineered by Volvo who always get an award for safety
20.	Yes please we not have much business, and have to wait 2 hours until pick up one job because of too many taxi from Wychavon council and some uber driver ,they come to our city to work .please should stop driver apps and wooper apps
21.	This should be changed as soon as possible
22.	One rule for all. At the moment Worcester private hire is 5 years old Worcester Hackney is 3years old. And you letting Wychavon to work in Worcester with 10 years old vehicle this is absolutely out of order
23.	Incentivise the transition to electric vehicles. Best spot in taxi rank is for EV only. EV only ranks.
24.	The taxis and ranks in Worcester need far better monitoring by regs services. They are consistently breaking licensing rules
25.	The move to electric / ule needs to be speeded up. Are there incentives available to encourage change of vehicles for licensed owners?