

Report to: Council, 11th July 2023

Report of: Chair of Licensing and Environmental Health Committee

Subject: REFERRAL REPORT FROM LICENSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE, 19th JUNE 2023 – HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE AGE POLICY REVIEW

1. Recommendation

1.1 That the Council agrees to:

- i. Approve an amendment to the existing hackney carriage and private hire vehicle policy, to include that 'No lower or upper age limit restrictions will apply in respect of 'all fully electric' new and replacement hackney carriage and private hire vehicles presented to the Council for licensing'; and**
- ii. Approve an amendment to the existing hackney carriage vehicle age policy, to state 'The current lower vehicle age limit applicable to all new, replacement and temporary hackney carriage vehicles is 5 years from the date of first registration'.**

2. Background

2.1 At the meeting on 19th June 2023, the Committee considered a report on a proposal to amend the Council's hackney carriage and private hire vehicle age policies. The report, which sets out the rationale for the proposals, is attached at **Appendix 1**.

2.2 Consultation on the proposals was undertaken over an 8-week period between 24th March 2023 and 22nd May 2023. The results are summarised in the report and can be read here: [2. Appendix 1 - Consultation results - summary.pdf \(worchester.gov.uk\)](#). The majority of respondents were in favour of both proposal 1 and proposal 2.

2.3 Having considered the results of the consultation exercise and the comments put forward by the respondents, the Committee agreed to recommend the Council to amend the current policy, as follows:

- Proposal 1 - Introduce a new licensing policy for fully electric vehicles only, where there are no lower or upper age limit restrictions on vehicles which can be licensed with the Council as either a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle. All other conditions and policy implications will still apply.
- Proposal 2 - Amend the current hackney carriage vehicle age policy, by increasing the lower age limit restriction from 3 years to 5 years.

3. Information

- 3.1 A copy of the policy, incorporating the amendments, is attached at **Appendix 2**.
- 3.2 Under the Constitution, the Committee is responsible for functions relating to the licensing and registration of taxis. However, for openness and transparency in adopting the revised policy, and in accordance with the Committee decision, the revised policy has been referred to the Council for approval.

Ward(s): All
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Background Papers: None