

REPORT TO LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

Date of Hearing: 24th September 2025

Report of: Julie Bennett – Licensing Officer

Type of Application: RENEWAL of a licence relating to a Hackney Carriage vehicle over 10 years old.

Legislation: Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, Town and Police Clauses Act 1847

Applicant: [REDACTED]

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 An application is attached at Appendix A that has been received from the Applicant, a licensed dual driver seeking permission for the renewal of a hackney carriage vehicle licence for a vehicle which will be 11 years old on 26 September 2025. This is a matter that cannot be dealt with under the delegated powers.

2. Background:

- 2.1 The vehicle that is being presented for licensing as a hackney carriage vehicle is a 4 passenger, Toyota Prius, registration number YN64 OEA, with a date of first registration of 26 September 2014. A copy of the vehicle registration document is attached as Appendix B.
- 2.2 The vehicle is a plug-in hybrid Euro 5b standard and is Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) compliant emitting 49g/km of CO₂.
- 2.3 On the Applicant's previous vehicle licence, the Licensing Sub-Committee imposed a condition for MOTs to be completed every six months and that evidence be provided to the Licensing Department of Exeter City Council. The Applicant complied with this condition during his previous licence.

3. Report Details:

- 3.1 The vehicle has a current MOT certificate dated 08 August 2025 and expires 07 August 2026. The mileage recorded at the MOT inspection was 271,097 miles. The MOT certificate and history are attached as Appendix C. The MOT history shows that the vehicle has failed the MOT test on 3 occasions since 2017. The CCTV & Meter check are attached as Appendix D. In addition to the MOT certificate there is an independent mechanical inspection report, which has been submitted, this is dated 15 August 2025 and is attached as Appendix E. Photos for the vehicle are attached at Appendix F. Upon inspection by a Council Officer the vehicle was found to be in reasonable condition for the age. The vehicle was first plated by Exeter City Council on 14 September 2017 and has been licensed since that date.
- 3.2 The Licensing Sub-Committee must have regard to the Council's Practices and Procedures for the control of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles, Drivers and Operators and the Code of Conduct for Licensed Drivers ('Taxi Policy').

- 3.3 Vehicles presented for renewal that are more than 8 years old will be referred to the licensing sub-committee for determination.

4. What are the legal aspects?

- 4.1 Section 37 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 provides that a district council may grant a vehicle a Hackney Carriage Licence. Section 47 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 ('the Act') states that a district council may attach such conditions to a licence as it considers reasonably necessary. The conditions that may apply are set out in the Taxi Policy.
- 4.2 Any person aggrieved by a refusal of the Licensing Sub-Committee to grant a vehicle licence may appeal to the Magistrates Court within 21 days of receiving written notice of the refusal.

5. Recommendations:

- 5.1 The Licensing Sub-Committee are asked to determine the application having regard to current policy.

Service Lead – Environmental Health & Community Safety

Author: Julie Bennett – Licensing Officer

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:-
None

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