

REPORT TO LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

Date of Hearing: 17 June 2026

Report of: Julie Bennett Licensing Officer

Type of Application: RENEWAL of a licence relating to a Hackney Carriage vehicle over 8 years old.

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

Applicant: [REDACTED]

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 An application attached at Appendix A has been received from the Applicant, a licensed taxi driver seeking permission for the renewal of a hackney carriage licence for a vehicle which is more than 8 years old. This is a matter that cannot be dealt with under delegated powers.

2. Background:

- 2.1 The vehicle that is being presented for licensing as a hackney carriage vehicle is a 4 passenger, Peugeot Horizon, registration number SF66 GWO, with a date of first registration of 16 December 2016. A copy of the vehicle registration document is attached as Appendix B.
- 2.2 The vehicle is not Euro 6 standard and the emissions recorded at last MOT was 109 g/km.
- 2.3 The vehicle is a rear loading wheelchair accessible vehicle ('WAV'). The current percentage of WAVs in the Council's hackney carriage fleet is 45 %.

3. Report Details:

- 3.1 The vehicle has a current MOT certificate dated 13 April 2026 and expires 19 April 2027. The mileage recorded at the MOT inspection was 212,524 miles. The MOT certificate and history are attached as Appendix C. The MOT history shows that the vehicle has failed the MOT test on five occasions since 2021. In addition to the MOT certificate there is an independent mechanical inspection report, which has been submitted, this is dated 13 April 2026 and is attached as Appendix D. Photos of the vehicle are attached at Appendix E. 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 1 June 2019 and has been licensed since that date. The vehicle was transferred to the Applicant on 24 September 2021.
- 3.2 The Licensing Sub-Committee must have regard to the Council's the 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.

3.4 In addition, the following paragraph A.2.4 of the Taxi Policy is relevant to this application:

'The Council's current policy is to prioritise applications for wheelchair accessible vehicles in order to maintain the proportion of wheelchair accessible vehicles in the Hackney Carriage Fleet at a minimum of 50%. Applications for ULEV's will only be invited when the proportion of wheelchair accessible vehicles exceeds 50%, and will be processed on a one ULEV, then one wheelchair accessible basis.'

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 – Head of Environment and Waste

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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