

**Hackney Carriage And Private Hire Age Limits
On Vehicles**

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| Portfolio: | Community |
| Ward(s) Affected: | All |

Purpose

To consider amending the current wording within the Councils Guidelines with Regard to Age Limits on Vehicles Submitted for Licensing as Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles

Background

1. The Council has adopted guidelines that no vehicle shall be licensed which, at the time of first presentation for licensing, was first registered with the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) more than three years previously or in the case of a vehicle presented for re-licensing more than five years since first being registered with the DVLA. Officers have been given delegated powers to exempt certain vehicles from this requirement following consideration of a written application and subject to guidelines adopted by the Council.
2. A copy of the approved age limit guidelines are attached at Annex A.

Current Position

3. The number of applications for exemptions from the age limit guidelines has increased over the past 18 months. The current guidelines state a vehicle must be under five years old for re-licensing. A vehicle presented to the Council for re-licensing that is four years and 364 days from first registration will receive a year's licence provided all the requirements are met. However, a vehicle which is presented for first time licensing which is five years and one day, will not receive a licence unless an exemption is applied for and granted.

Options

4.
 - (i) The age limits guidelines could be removed completely.
 - (ii) Various alternative age limits could be specified.
 - (iii) The current policy guidelines could be retained.

Proposal

5. In the interests of fairness it is proposed that the wording of the guidelines be amended.

Resource Implications

6. There are no resource implications for the Council.

Recommendation

7. The existing Council guidelines with regard to age limits on vehicles submitted for licensing as hackney carriages and private hire be amended at Paragraph 1(b) of the age limit guidelines and replaced to allow for vehicles to be licensed for a maximum

Agenda Item 5

Agenda Item 5

of six years from first registration with the DVLA.

Background Papers: None

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