



City of  
Doncaster  
Council

## **Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Licensing Policy – Status Update**

Throughout the policy there are references to the Licensing Committee giving consideration to the inclusion of:

1. A mandatory requirement for all licensed vehicles to be fitted with an in-car CCTV system which meets or exceeds the Council's published specifications.
2. A requirement that all licensed vehicles will be subject to an agreed exhaust emissions limit.
3. A limit on the age at which a vehicle will be considered to be suitable to be licensed as a Private Hire or Hackney Carriage vehicle.

The policy states that a decision on each of the above items will be made before 1 April 2022.

As this date has now passed, the authority is publishing this document in order to provide an update on the above.

### **Background**

On 16 June 2022 the Licensing Committee agreed that a 12 week consultation exercise should be undertaken regarding:

1. (proposal 1) Updating the CCTV specifications contained in the policy.
2. (proposal 2) Amending the policy to require mandatory in-car CCTV in licensed vehicles.
3. (proposal 3) Amending the policy to impose a limit on the permitted exhaust emissions of licensed vehicles.

In addition, the Licensing Committee agreed that imposing a maximum age limit for licensed vehicles would no longer be considered.

The Licensing Committee required that the consultation document be brought back to Committee prior to wider circulation.

### **Next Steps**

Once the Licensing Committee has approved the consultation questions, the authority will undertake a 12 week public consultation on the proposed amendments to the policy.

Doncaster Council  
Licensing, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster DN1 3BU

The results of the consultation will be presented to the Licensing Committee and members will be asked to make a determination on each of the 3 proposed amendments.

The authority will publish a revised Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Licensing policy which will reflect the determination of the Licensing Committee.

## **Possible Outcomes**

### **Proposal 1. CCTV Specifications**

The Licensing Committee may determine that:

1. The policy be amended to update the CCTV specifications (Appendix 20) with the specifications which were part of the 12 week consultation, subject to any amendments the members require.

The members will agree:

- if the changes to the specifications should be implemented immediately or,
- to specify a date on which the amendments will take effect. Or,

2. The CCTV specifications contained in the policy (Appendix 20) shall remain unchanged.

### **Proposal 2. Mandatory CCTV**

The Licensing Committee may determine that:

1. The policy be amended to include a mandatory requirement that licensed vehicles must have an in-car CCTV system fitted which meets or exceeds the specifications published in the policy.

The members will agree:

- if the requirement shall apply to all licensed vehicles or a specified type of licensed vehicle (e.g. Hackney Carriages)
- to specify a date by which those vehicles which are affected, must be compliant with this requirement. Or,

2. There shall be no mandatory requirement for licensed vehicles to have in-car CCTV fitted and the decision to have such a system fitted will remain voluntary.

### **Proposal 3. Emissions Limits**

The Licensing Committee may determine that:

1. The policy be amended to include a limit on the exhaust emissions for licensed vehicles.

The members will agree:

- what the emissions limit will be.

- if the limit will apply to all licensed vehicles or a specified type of vehicle (e.g. vehicles which are granted a licence after a specified date).
  - to specify a date by which those vehicles which are affected, must be compliant with this requirement. Or,
2. There shall be no local authority imposed limit on the exhaust emissions for licensed vehicles.

### **Key Dates**

Consultation on these matters has been deferred due to the ongoing effect of the cost-of-living crisis on the trade and consumers alike as well as the governments ongoing review of climate issues. The authority will review its commitment to implement consultation on these matters.

### **Further Information**

Any updates, including details of the consultation and how to have your say, will be published on this webpage: [www.doncaster.gov.uk/taxipolicy](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/taxipolicy)