

BY EMAIL	Date:	22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2019
	Our Ref:	TPR/WAV TRANSFER
	Phone:	01273 296655
	Email:	<a href="mailto:taxilicence@brighton-hove.gov.uk">taxilicence@brighton-hove.gov.uk</a>

Dear Driver

**Taxi Policy Review - Hackney Carriage Vehicle Transfer and Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV) review**

**PURPOSE OF CONSULTATION**

At licencing committee on 14 March 2019, elected Members agreed a policy change. This removed the requirement that a Hackney Carriage Vehicle must become wheelchair accessible following transfer to another person. The policy change only related to non-wheelchair accessible vehicles and it was confirmed that existing compulsory wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAVs) must remain wheelchair accessible.

Hackney Carriage vehicles are taxis that you can pick up or hail from a taxi rank or the street as opposed to Private Hire vehicles which must be pre-booked.

We are seeking your views on this policy change.

**RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The previous policy required that any Hackney Carriage vehicle transferred to another person will be required to become wheelchair accessible at renewal following transfer. The Policy was adopted following an Equalities Review in Hackney Carriage & Private Hire policies in 2010 and was one measure adopted to boost the number of WAVs in the Hackney Carriage fleet, which was deemed necessary at the time.

Since the requirement was introduced in 2010, we have seen an increase from 25% to 50% of WAVs in the Hackney Carriage fleet. The Council recognises the importance of having a mixed fleet as being the best way to provide transport for a range of passengers, including disabled and older passengers. A recent survey (Nov 2018) into the Hackney Carriage fleet concluded that the best level of WAVs for this area might be 50% and it was important to focus on improving vehicle emissions whilst ensuring the level of WAVs remains.

The aim of the change agreed in March 2019 is to maintain the level of WAVs within the Hackney Carriage fleet which was considered to be at an optimum level and reduce further significant increases/decreases.

An additional policy requirement which manages the introduction of new Hackney Carriage vehicles each year means we may see a small increase due to the requirement that new Hackney Carriage vehicles must be either WAV, electric or plug-in hybrid. Since May 2019, 4 out of the 5 new Hackney Carriage vehicles allowed were WAVs.

The table below shows the numbers of Hackney Carriage WAVs steadily increasing from 2010- 2019 within the total Hackney Carriage fleet.

<b>Year (Oct)</b>	<b>Total Hackney Carriage Vehicles</b>	<b>Hackney Carriage WAVs</b>
2019	580	291
2018	575	286
2017	570	273
2016	565	252
2015	560	230
2014	555	223
2013	550	201
2012	545	168
2011	540	143
2010	535	131

**TAXI POLICY REVIEW**

As part of the review of this policy change, we are seeking views from the local taxi trade and local disability and age focused community groups.

We would like your comments in relation to the following questions:

- What are your views about this policy change? – are you for or against the change?
- How do you think this policy change will impact service users?
- What percentage of the Hackney Carriage fleet do you think should be WAVs to meet the needs of all taxi service users?
- Do you have any other comments to inform this review, related to the service Hackney Carriage provides for taxi service users, including disabled passengers?

I would be grateful if you could respond to the Taxi Licensing Team by the **2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020**.

Responses may be sent by email to [taxilicence@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:taxilicence@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or by post to:

Taxi Licensing Team  
Room G14  
Hove Town Hall  
Norton Road  
Hove BN3 3BQ

Tel. 01273 296655

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Whitelegg". The signature is written in a cursive style with a loop at the end of the last name.

**Jim Whitelegg**  
**Regulatory Services Manager (Licensing and Trading Standards)**

## **Privacy Notice**

The Council is the data controller for purposes of the Data Protection Act (2018) and EU General Data Protection Regulation as of May 2018 and is registered as a data controller with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

Brighton & Hove City Council are committed to protecting your personal information. As a data controller we have a responsibility to make sure you know why and how your personal information is being collected in accordance with relevant data protection law.

### **Purposes and lawful basis of processing**

We are collecting your data for the purpose of consulting the relevant parties to help develop policy change in relation to either Licensing, Gambling, Taxis, Street Trading and Sex Establishments.

If the consultation is regarding licensing or gambling policy change, then our lawful basis is legal obligation, specifically working within either the Licensing Act 2003 or Gambling Act 2005. All other consultations, our lawful basis for processing data is for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest.

### **Who we will share your data with**

Your personal data will not be shared, however, answers provided in the consultation will be sent to the Licensing Committee and made available to the public. If answers have been made on behalf of an organisation, the details of the organisation will also be shared with the Licensing Committee and made available to the public.

### **How long we will hold your data (retention)**

We will hold your data for one year from the end of the consultation.

### **Transferring data outside the European Economic Area**

Your information is not processed outside of the European Economic Area.

### **Your information rights**

Under GDPR you have certain rights concerning your information.

For further information on your rights visit <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/privacy>

### **Further information**

If you would like to discuss this further please contact our Information Governance Team on 01273 295959 or [data.protection@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:data.protection@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

The council also has a Data Protection Officer, who can be contacted via <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/dpo>

You can also contact the ICO for further information or to make a complaint:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Phone: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or 01625 545 745 if you prefer to use a national rate number

<https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/email/>

<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>