

Local Authority requirements for new Hackney Carriage vehicle licences issued after deregulation

Information received following our nation-wide e-mail request for information through NATPHLEO (National Association of Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Enforcement Officers)

LA	Age of HC	Type	Colour	Additional
Durham City	New	Initially 9 new licences to be issued for wheelchair-accessible. No more than one licence per individual. Will decide before March 2005 to move to complete quantity deregulation or continue to phase in additional HC licences.	White	European Whole Vehicle Type Approval or UK Low Volume Type Approval or Enhanced Single Vehicle approval.
Castle Point BC		50% reduction in licence fee as an incentive to applicant to provide wheelchair-accessible vehicle		Driver must have been a HC or PH driver for 3 years when applying for a HCV licence (to avoid a huge influx of new HC)
Basildon DC	On at 4, off at 7. London style taxis on at 5, off at 15	All new and replacement HC to be wheelchair-accessible. All vehicles from 2010 to 2020 to be wheelchair accessible.	Orange/white	PATS training for drivers (Passenger Assisted Transport Schemes) in handling of disabled persons.
Medway Council		No special conditions until details of taxi specification provided by DTLR		Deregulated Oct. 2000
East Lindsey DC		All HC to be wheelchair/disabled access vehicles		Currently taking off the numbers limit
St Albans DC	No more than 2 years	Only purpose-built wheelchair-accessible London style cabs meeting Metropolitan Conditions of Fitness. (Saloon HC before deregulation can transfer to a saloon less than 2 years old provided it is liveried: white with yellow stripe and crest).		Cost of vehicle is approx £30,000
Crawley BC	Under 4 years	Wheelchair-accessible vehicles only.	White	10 additional HC licences issued since deregulation 9/03. Crawley now has 88 HCV. Since 9/03 new HC drivers to pass DSA test
Mole Valley DC		Still regulated – but 4 additional licences issued 2003-04 for wheelchair-accessible vehicles.		

		Type		
Bassetlaw DC	Brand new	Wheelchair-accessible vehicles only to comply with detailed specification (similar to London cabs). European Whole Vehicle Type Approval 70/156/EEC.		
Kettering BC	On at no more than 1 year old, off at 8 years	Only purpose-built wheelchair accessible HC, eg LTI TX1 and TX2, Metrocab, Euro Taxi, E7, EuroCab. All new licences to meet this specification after 1.4.05. All existing licences to meet this specification after 1.4.09		Delimiting numbers on 1.4.05. New conditions aim "to ensure that the new plates and subsequently the existing fleet are to the best quality possible".

Extract from email received from David Spencer, 17.11.04 – he requested information to update the list of councils which retain a Hackney Carriage numbers policy. Mr Spencer says his research has been carried out independently and he has been in the hackney carriage trade for 25 years.

"The percentage of councils that now restrict by numbers is 35%. There is a current trend that shows those Licensing Authorities who have an under-supply of purpose built WAV's (wheelchair accessible vehicles), are taking the view that derestriction with vehicle quality control is a better option for all concerned, rather than their present policy of total restriction."

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9.12.04