

**REPORT FROM: REGENERATION SERVICES  
ENGINEERING AND SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER**

**TO: TAXI LICENSING COMMITTEE**

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**Report Author: Jackie Allen  
Tel. No: 661638  
E-mail: jackie.allen@pendle.gov.uk**

## **AGE LIMIT OF LICENSED VEHICLES**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To consider a request to lower the age limit for licensed vehicles.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That no change be made to the existing age limit.

### **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The age limit was previously considered by the Executive in July 2011 and it was agreed that to remove the existing age limit would see deterioration in the standard of licensed vehicles.

### **BACKGROUND**

1. At the last meeting of this Committee, members of the trade asked for the age limit to be reviewed. One suggestion was for the age limit to be extended to 10 years for private hire vehicles and 12 years for hackney carriages.
2. The Hackney Carriage Drivers' Association, of which some of our hackney carriage drivers are members, has asked that the hackney carriage licence of one of its members be extended beyond the nine-year age limit.
3. The current age limit for a saloon vehicle is no older than seven years when first licensed through to nine years of age. For wheelchair accessible vehicles, these must be no older than seven years when first licensed through to 12 years of age.

Listed below is the history of previous age limits for Pendle's licensed vehicles:

**1989:** First age limit of six years introduced; increased to seven years following repeated representation from the trade.

**2003:** Amended to up to eight years when first licensed through to 10 years old.

**2007:** Overview and Scrutiny review of age limit and testing of licensed vehicles. Age limit kept the same with the exception of wheelchair-accessible vehicles to be licensed from 10 years through to 15 years.

**2009:** Age limit reduced to seven years when first licensed through to nine years. The reason for the reduction was due to the high number of vehicles failing spot checks.

**2010:** Consideration was given to reducing the age limit for all licensed vehicles, including wheelchair-accessible, to no more than seven years when first licensed through to 15 years. No change was made.

**2011:** Age limit for wheelchair-accessible vehicles reduced to no older than seven years when first licensed through to 12 years. No change was made to the age limit for other vehicles.

## **CONCLUSION**

4. The age limit has been considered on numerous occasions, with the last one being in 2011. Therefore, I see no reason to consider a further request when it is less than 12 months since it was previously considered and agreed that it should remain as it is, with the exception of wheelchair-accessible vehicles.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

**Policy:** The current age limit for a saloon vehicle is no older than seven years when first licensed through to nine years of age. For wheelchair accessible vehicles, these must be no older than seven years when first licensed through to 12 years of age.

**Financial:** None arising directly from the report.

**Legal:** None arising directly from the report.

**Risk Management:** None arising directly from the report.

**Health and Safety:** None arising directly from the report.

**Sustainability:** None arising directly from the report.

**Community Safety:** Improvement in the standards of licensed vehicles will be safer for members of the public.

**Equality and Diversity:** None arising directly from the report.

## **APPENDICES**

None.

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Reports to Taxi Licensing Committee and the Executive.