

**TAXI POLICY HARMONISATION**

**TRADE DROP IN SESSIONS**

Licensees took up the opportunity to ask questions on the changes to taxi policy and hackney carriage fare review. Since the decision on hackney carriage fares is being taken separately by the Licensing and Regulatory committees, these comments have been excluded from this summary.

In addition to asking questions, the trade raised the following specific points:

**Hackney carriage licensing areas (and livery)**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can licensees choose between 'zones'?</li> <li>• Do we want to keep the livery?</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retain rank zones</li> <li>• No to branding colour</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not abolishing Haverhill zone</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drivers were told the number of vehicles registered would be allocated based on a survey of supply and demand. Survey evidence is needed but this has been ignored.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not concerned about using each other's ranks</li> <li>• 7 plates (1 electric vehicle)</li> <li>• Does not want to keep yellow/black</li> <li>• Customers in this area not concerned by colour/branding</li> <li>• Clients actually refuse to use at times as they want a less obvious vehicle e.g. wedding, races etc.</li> <li>• Happy with a single colour option</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prefer to have no zones</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logo</li> <li>• No liveries</li> <li>• Abolish all zones</li> <li>• Non-rank space</li> </ul>

**Maximum age of vehicles upon first licensing**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 S Class Mercs – to replace will cost £30k, should be based on condition</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Testing should be stricter and not allow vehicles to pass with dents</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree 5 year age limits (private hire vehicles and saloon hackney carriage vehicles)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Happy with WAVs at 3 years 3 months</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All age limits should be 5 years</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hackney and Private Hire vehicles – minimum 5 years , preferably 7</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drivers cannot afford to lower age of cars at first registration</li> </ul>

**Other (excluding hackney carriage fares)**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas Fayre – leave the traverse open as is because it is dangerous to reverse</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of electric charging points in Newmarket</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Even during the winter when it is cold cars discouraged from running engine in ranks. Electric cars, no emissions and silent running should encouraged. Hence, more charging points needed</li> </ul>