

Appendix A

Details of recommendation

Proposal 1: Remove taxi and private hire vehicle age restrictions

Part 3.1 of the [Taunton Deane policy](#) (page 21) and conditions 3, 4 and 5 of Appendix C of the [West Somerset policy](#) (page 32) to be replaced with the following:

There are no restrictions on the age of vehicles which are to be considered for licensing as hackney carriages or private hire vehicles.

Furthermore, conditions 24 and 25 of both Appendix 3 and Appendix 4 of the [Taunton Deane Policy](#) (standard conditions of a hackney carriage vehicle licence, page 48 and standard conditions of a private hire vehicle licence, page 52) to be removed.

Proposal 2: Make roof signs mandatory for taxis but prohibit their use on private hire vehicles completely.

Condition 16 of the [West Somerset policy](#) (page 34) to be replaced with the following:

Roof signs are not permitted on private hire vehicles.

A new condition to be added to the standard conditions of hackney carriage licences, which form Appendix 3 of the [Taunton Deane Policy](#) and Appendix C of the [West Somerset policy](#):

A roof sign must be displayed on the roof of the vehicle, whether fitted or in-built, to help identify the vehicle as a hackney carriage.

Proposal 3: Increase the frequency of driver medical checks

Paragraph 2.7 b) of the [West Somerset policy](#) (page 6), to be amended to:

Produce a medical certificate as to his/her fitness to driver:

- i. Upon application for the grant of a driver's licence.*
- ii. Upon application for the renewal of a driver's licence.*

- iii. *following any illness and/or injury, which prevents the driver from working for more than 6 months.*

Part 2.6 of the [Taunton Deane policy](#) (page 7), second and third paragraphs to be replaced with:

A medical certificate shall be submitted upon application for the grant and renewal of a driver's licence.

Proposal 4: Allow vehicles with rear wheelchair loading facilities to be licensed as taxis and private vehicles in the West Somerset area, as they are already in the Taunton Deane area

Condition 1 a) of Appendix C of the [West Somerset policy](#) (page 32) to be replaced with the following:

London style cab, or similar with full wheelchair access facilities (without the requirement to remove seats to obtain wheelchair compliance) such vehicles to be defined as a purpose-built hackney carriage with wheelchair access and which has either:

- i. *achieved National Low Volume Type Approval in its final format; or*
- ii. *been fully tested to M.1. category, such testing having been witnessed by the Vehicle Certification Agency.*