

Report to: General Purposes Committee Meeting - 2 March 2023
 Director Lead: Matt Finch, Director - Communities & Environment
 Lead Officer: Damian Wilkins, Environmental Health & Licensing Manager
damian.wilkins@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk Tel: 01636 655314

Report Summary	
Report Title	Introduction of Low and Zero Emission Licensed Vehicles
Purpose of Report	To consider a minor Amendment to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2022 to facilitate low and zero emission vehicles and improve accessibility
Recommendations	To amend the Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy as set out in paragraph 2.1 this report.
Reason for Recommendation	A climate emergency was declared by this Council on 16 July 2019. We are committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and this will support the introduction of low emission vehicles as taxis within this district.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Council is the Licensing Authority in regard to the issuing of licences for Hackney Carriage Vehicles and Private Hire Vehicles. The General Purposes Committee has a key role in setting policy in this area.
- 1.2 On 16 July 2019 this Council declared a climate emergency and set about establishing the Council’s carbon footprint with a view to systematically reducing it.
- 1.3 The Environment Act 1995 requires the Council to monitor its air quality and take steps to reduce pollution.
- 1.4 ULEVs are currently defined as having less than 75 grams of CO₂ per kilometre (g/km) from the tail pipe. ULEVs include the following types of vehicles:
- (a) Battery Electric Vehicles;
 - (b) Plug-in hybrid vehicles;
 - (c) Range Extended Electric Vehicles; and
 - (d) Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles.
- 1.5 Newark & Sherwood District Council’s Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy (hereafter referred to as ‘the Policy’) was revised and approved by the General Purposes Committee in 2021.

1.6 The Policy includes a requirement in Appendix 11, page 72 for vehicles to have a minimum engine capacity of 90 Brake Horsepower (BHP). ULEVs may not have an engine or may have an engine with a lower capacity. Consequently, this requirement means that the Council is currently unable to authorise the licensing of ULEVs as a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle and accordingly, the current licencing policy does not facilitate the licencing of Zero Emission Capable (ZEC) (electric format) vehicles.

2.0 Proposals

2.1 It is proposed that the Policy is amended to enable the registration of ULEVs licensed vehicles, as set out below:

“3.1 A minimum engine capacity of 90 Brake Horsepower (BHP) or be regarded as an Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) or have emissions that meet the Euro 6 Emission Standard. The Euro 6 Emission Standard are:

For petrol cars;

CO – 1.0g/km

HC – 0.10g/km NOx – 0.06g/km

PM – 0.005g/km (direct injection only)

PM – 6.0x10¹¹/km (direct injection only)

For diesel cars

CO – 0.50g/km

HC + NOx – 0.17g/km

NOx – 0.08g/km

PM – 0.005g/km

PM – 6.0x10¹¹/k

For the purposes of this policy, Vehicles that are ultra-low emission (ULEV) are those with emissions of less than 75 grams of CO₂. ULEV includes battery electric vehicle (BEV), extended range electric vehicle (E-REV) plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) or fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV-hydrogen vehicle).

3.0 Implications

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding and Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

3.1 Financial

There are no significant additional resource implications that will derive from the options outlined above.

3.2 Sustainability

The choice of low emission/electric vehicle represents a more sustainable mode of transport for taxi journeys.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Newark and Sherwood District Council Taxi Policy](#)