

Derby City Council

**Hackney Carriage and Private Hire
Vehicle Age and
Specification Policy**

August 2019

GENERAL

1. This policy will have effect from 22 August 2019.
2. No Hackney Carriage or Private Hire vehicle shall be granted a licence unless it meets the Council's approved vehicle specification. In addition to this, no application will be granted for a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence unless it is wheelchair accessible.
3. Derby City Council will ordinarily refuse to renew a licence for a vehicle for use as a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire vehicle once the respective upper age limit set out in this policy (see below as applicable) has been reached.
4. All licensed vehicles five years old or under from the date of first DVLA registration will be subject to an annual inspection carried out by an approved Derby City Council testing station.
5. All licensed vehicles over five years old from the date of first DVLA registration will be subject to two inspections annually at SIX (6) monthly intervals carried out by an approved Derby City Council testing station.
6. **From 01/01/2025**, all vehicles presented for first licensing as a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire vehicle shall be Euro 6* Diesel or ZEC or ULEV**.

PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

From 01/04/2025

1. Only Private Hire vehicles under FIVE (5) years of age from the date of first DVLA registration will be considered for first licensing.

From 13/03/2026

1. Only Private Hire vehicles under NINE (9) years of age from the date of first DVLA registration will be considered for first licensing.

From 01/01/2025

1. Existing Private Hire vehicles over the age of FIFTEEN (15) years from the date of first DVLA registration will ordinarily be REFUSED a licence UNLESS the vehicle is in exceptional condition and has been approved for use following an Exceptional Condition Vehicle Check.

HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLES

From 22/08/19

1. All newly licensed approved Euro 6* Diesel or ZEC or ULEV** Hackney Carriages must have all its exterior bodywork finished in the respective manufacturer's standard black paintwork colour and the body-wrapped in AA Yellow (Paint Code SV035) or equivalent.

From 01/01/25

1. No Euro 6 Diesel vehicle will ordinarily be licensed as a hackney carriage if it is over the age of FIFTEEN (15) years UNLESS the vehicle is in exceptional condition and has been approved for use following an Exceptional Condition Vehicle Check
2. No ZEC or ULEV vehicle will ordinarily be licensed as a hackney carriage if it is over the age of FIFTEEN (15) years UNLESS the vehicle is in exceptional condition and has been approved for use following an Exceptional Condition Vehicle Check.

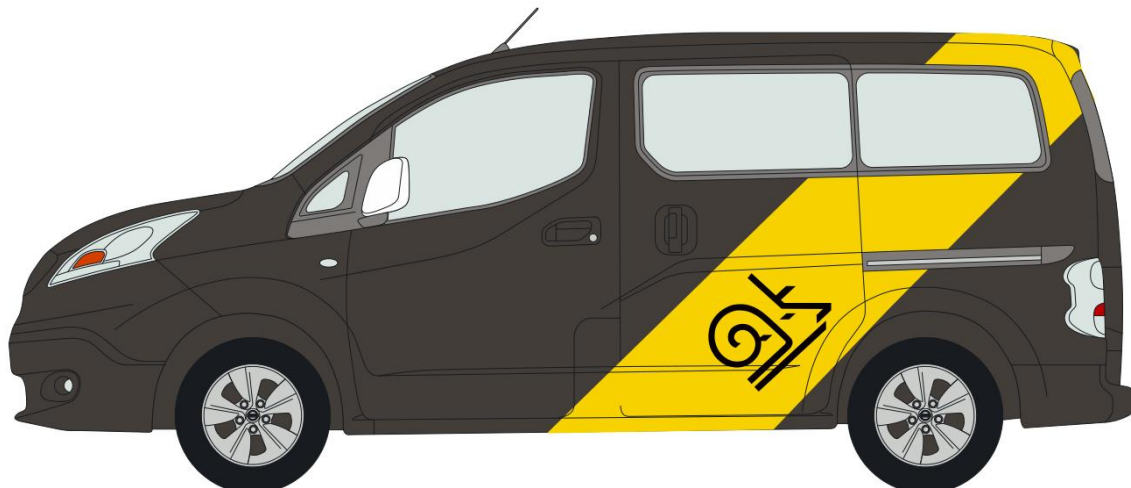
* Euro 6 diesel relates to the engine AND vehicle both being manufactured after September 2015.

** ZEC or ULEV definition – emit up to 50g/km CO₂ with a minimum of 30 mile emission range. A ZEC Hackney Carriage MUST be petrol if an internal combustion engine is used.

COLOUR PALETTE & SITUATIONAL BRANDING

Colour Palette - AA Yellow (Paint Code SV035) or equivalent.

Positioning – see examples



EXCEPTIONAL CONDITION VEHICLE CHECK (ECVC)

for all DCC licensed vehicles over 15 years from the first date of registration

For the purposes of this inspection the word 'exceptional' is defined as "unusually good" and "much better than average"

The current Age & Emissions Policy for Hackney Carriage & Private Hire vehicles was approved on 22 August 2019, part of which provides that:

- 1) From 1 January 2025, all vehicles currently licensed by the Council with an existing licence which expires on or after 31 December 2024 and which are over the age of 15 years from the date of first DVLA registration will ordinarily be refused a licence unless the vehicle is in exceptional condition and has been approved for use following an Exceptional Condition Vehicle Check (ECVC).

- 2) From 1 January 2025, all newly licensed vehicles will be required to be a minimum of Euro 6 Diesel or ZEC or ULEV.

The ECVC is carried out by an authorised Licensing Enforcement/Compliance Officer to assess whether your vehicle is in a condition to remain licensed with Derby City Council.

The vehicle **MUST** be presented in exceptional condition with no visible defects, dents or blemishes to the external bodywork or internal trim and seating. Elements of mechanical checks will also be made such as tyre condition, lights and fittings.

During the ECVC you will be asked to carry out certain performance checks such as lighting checks to assist the Officer.

If the vehicle passes the ECVC inspection, the vehicle can be presented for a comprehensive Licensing Inspection at one of our authorised test centres as required by the conditions of the vehicle licence.

If the vehicle fails the ECVC inspection, the vehicle **CANNOT** be presented for a comprehensive Licensing Inspection at one of our authorised test centres as required by the conditions of the vehicle licence and will no longer be licensed with Derby.

CHECKLIST OF ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE ECVC

CRITERIA
The vehicle MUST be exceptionally clean inside and out, dirt free and damage free.
All paintwork MUST be clean and in exceptional condition with no damage, bubbling, visible rust or other signs of deterioration.
The vehicle MUST be free of dents, scratches, scrapes or stone chips to its paintwork or trim
All windows MUST be fully operational and be free of damage, including the windscreen.
All mirrors, interior and exterior, must be fully operational and have no damage to the glass, such as cracks or chips, or damage to the casings/housings and must be securely attached.
All fitted lights MUST be fully operational and all lenses damage free.
Any luggage carrying area MUST be clean and free from clutter
All seat, roof, and floor coverings MUST be in exceptional condition with no damage, stains, marks, tears, or fraying.
In relation to Hackney Carriages (or private hire vehicles fitted with wheelchair facilities) wheelchair ramps and restraints MUST be fully functional and their stowage/storage facilities must be in good order. The Council may require written confirmation from the manufacturer or supplier of the equipment that it is compliant with legislation and/or considered by them to be in good order to be provided by the applicant.
The applicant MUST provide written evidence of a full service history during their period of ownership/proprietorship which is from a recognised provider.
All seatbelts MUST be fully operational, clean and in excellent condition, including their casings/covers
All switchgear MUST be in good order and fully operational