

Taxi and Private Hire Cars Age Limitation and Emission Standards Policy

Agreed by the Regulatory Committee on 16 March 2018.

Taxi or PHC licensed by the City of Edinburgh Council

Age Limit

1. **Effective 1 April 2020** there will be an Age Limit applied to Taxis and Private Hire Cars (PHC) licensed by the City of Edinburgh Council, Subject to meeting normal conditions about roadworthiness, a taxi and PHC can be submitted for test prior to the 10th anniversary of its registration for renewal of licence and can continue to operate until the expiry of that licence period.
2. **Effective 1 April 2020** Any Taxi or PHC which is converted to LPG will be an exception to the above age limit and allowed an additional 4 years of operation. Subject to meeting normal conditions about roadworthiness a converted vehicle can be submitted for test prior to the 14th anniversary of its registration for renewal of licence and can continue to operate until the expiry of that licence period.

In addition to vehicles requiring to meet the above age limits, the emission standards set out below will also apply with the relevant date for both age limitation and emission standards being the earliest date applicable in either category.

Emission Standards

3. **Effective 1 April 2019** no Taxi or PHC will thereafter be accepted for test unless it is Euro 5 or above. Any Euro 0-4 Taxi or PHC which has passed its test and is licensed prior to 1 April 2019 may continue to be operated until its licence expires or **31 Mar 2020** whichever date is earliest.
4. **Effective 1 April 2022** no Taxi or PHC will thereafter be accepted for test unless it is Euro 6 or above. Separately to this requirement, any Euro 5 Taxi or PHC that has passed its test and is licensed prior to 1 April 2022 may continue to be operated until its licence expires or **31 Mar 2023** whichever date is earliest.

Taxi or PHC not currently licensed by the City of Edinburgh Council

5. **Effective 7 May 2018**, no vehicle will be accepted for licensing as a Taxi or PHC or as a replacement vehicle for an existing Taxi or PHC licence unless it is either Euro 5 or 6.
6. **Thereafter effective 1 October 2018** no vehicle will be accepted Taxi or PHC will be accepted for licensing as a Taxi or PHC or as a replacement vehicle for an existing Taxi or PHC licence unless it is a Euro 6.

Any applicant for either the grant or renewal of a taxi or PHC licence may request that a standard condition be disapplied in relation to his/her licence. Where an applicant seeks an exemption from the standard conditions in relation to either the age limitation or emission standards then such applications will be referred to Committee for determination on a case by case basis and it will be for individual applicants to set out their position as to why the conditions should not be applied. In any such case, were an applicant's requests for exemption to be refused then the applicant will be entitled to appeal the Committee's decision to the Sheriff.

Appendix 8 – Licensing Conditions

Current Taxi Conditions

256. Licensed Vehicles in Edinburgh must be a motor vehicle of a type or model which holds a valid European Whole Vehicle Type Approval as an M1 vehicle, is purpose built for use as a Licensed Vehicle and must comply in all respects with the requirements of any Acts and Regulations relating to motor vehicles.
257. All Licensed Vehicles in Edinburgh must be readily wheelchair accessible

Proposed Taxi Conditions

256. Licensed Vehicles in Edinburgh must be a motor vehicle of a type or model which holds a valid European Whole Vehicle Type Approval as an M1 vehicle, is purpose built for use as a Licensed Vehicle and must comply in all respects with the requirements of any Acts and Regulations relating to motor vehicles. In addition all vehicles licensed as taxis shall:-
- be less than 11 years old from the date of first registration. (Vehicles shall be taken out of service and replaced when they become 11 years old/ 10 years old from the date of first registration respectively.)
 - No vehicle of Euro 1-4 standard shall be accepted for test after 31 March 2019 and cannot be operated after 31st March 2020
 - No vehicle of Euro 5 standard shall be accepted for test after 31 March 2021 and cannot be operated after 31st March 2022
 - Any existing vehicle licenced by CEC can be adapted to Euro 6 or converted to LPG if it is assessed as safe by the Taxi Examiners and is accompanied by a approval certificate obtained from VOSA. After such conversion the vehicle may continue to be operate for a period of 4 years from the date of conversion.
 - From 1 April 2018 a vehicle not previously registered with the City of Edinburgh Council will only be accepted for licensing as a taxi if it is a Euro 6 vehicle.
257. All Licensed Vehicles in Edinburgh must be readily wheelchair accessible.

Current PHC Conditions

303. Licensed Vehicles in Edinburgh must be a motor vehicle of a type or model which holds a valid European Community Whole Vehicle Type Approval, and must comply in all respects with the requirements of any Acts and Regulations relating to motor vehicles, in force at the time of licensing.

Proposed PHC Conditions

303. Licensed Vehicles in Edinburgh must be a motor vehicle of a type or model which holds a valid European Community Whole Vehicle Type Approval, and must comply

in all respects with the requirements of any Acts and Regulations relating to motor vehicles, in force at the time of licensing. In addition all vehicles licensed as PHC's shall:-

- be less than 11 years old from the date of first registration. (Vehicles shall be taken out of service and replaced when they become 11 years old/ 10 years old from the date of first registration respectively.)
- No vehicle of Euro 1-4 standard shall be accepted for test after 31 March 2019 and cannot be operated after 31st March 2020
- No vehicle of Euro 5 standard shall be accepted for test after 31 March 2021 and cannot be operated after 31st March 2022
- Any existing vehicle licenced by CEC can be adapted to Euro 6 or converted to LPG if it is assessed as safe by the Taxi Examiners and is accompanied by a approval certificate obtained from VOSA. After such conversion the vehicle may continue to be operate for a period of 4 years from the date of conversion.
- From 1 April 2018 a vehicle not previously registered with the City of Edinburgh Council will only be accepted for licensing as a PHC if it is a Euro 6 vehicle.