

Taxi Availability (including wheelchair accessible vehicles)

APPENDIX 2

Table of Proposed Changes to Current Policy

Subject	Proposed change	Rationale
Page 26 – Age Restrictions	No age restriction of vehicles provided engines are compliant with Euro 6 standards by 1 April 2023 (with the exception of Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles already licensed)	<p>Emissions is a key factor for vehicle age. All vehicles manufactured after September 2015 will be Euro 6 standards and this will remove older, more polluting vehicles. Safety standards will be maintained through our current vehicle testing regime.</p> <p>Emission free and hybrid vehicles are already less polluting.</p> <p>This has been proposed in the DfT consultation.</p> <p>Number of WAVs not compliant with Euro 6 by April 2023 is very low and removing them will be a disproportionate response when there is a need for more of them.</p>
Page 13 – Topographical knowledge test for all drivers prior to licensing	Locality test for a Private Hire Drivers License to be removed.	<p>Unlike hackney carriages that can be hired immediately, private hire vehicles take pre-booked journeys only, with routes that can be planned.</p> <p>With improved technology routes are often sent directly to a vehicles satnav so that in-depth knowledge is not required for private hire drivers.</p> <p>This test can be off-putting to prospective drivers, however they are still required to pass the remaining modules, so safety will not be compromised.</p>

		Will assist with recruiting new drivers.
Page 32 – Window tint – all rear windows have a minimum of 30% light transmission.	No tint restriction provided that the tint is standard to the vehicle from the production line.	<p>Front windscreen and front passenger windows already have a minimum tint requirement by regulations.</p> <p>Rear windows often have a lower light transmission and can vary from each car production.</p> <p>DfT consultation says that if there are possible safety issues, where these are evidenced, an alternative such as CCTV should be considered.</p> <p>This can be a considerable cost saving to the trade who will not be required to change glass from a standard production line vehicle for it to be licensed.</p>