

Part B

Order of Preference					Capacity of Respondent
1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	
A	B	C	D	E	Licensed driver
A	D				Licensed private hire operator
A	B	C	D	E	Licensed driver

A lot of drivers will find this issue difficult as most new / used cars come with tinted windows / glass as a standard offer

Does option D mean that if a vehicle has factory fitted privacy glass this is acceptable? If so this would be my 2nd preference. Otherwise option A is the only one that gets my vote.

I have had difficulty buying a vehicle fit for purpose due to the level of tint. I had to go to the extremes of asking the garage dealer to drive the vehicle down to the licensing surgery. I have also had to try and get quotes for windows to be exchanged. The wording in the handbook is misleading, perhaps this could be addressed. I must thank Ann May for being so helpful with regards to the issues I have had. Thanks.

Order of Preference					
1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	Capacity of Respondent
A	D	E	C	B	Licensed driver and private hire operator
A	D	B	C	E	Not specified
A					Licensed driver and private hire operator
D	A	B	E	C	Licensed driver and private hire operator
A	D	C	B	E	Licensed driver and private hire operator
					<p>The issue of window tints has caused hassle and expense for some drivers with no good reason. Why would a driver want to “conceal the identity of passengers”? Other Councils don’t have this rule and drivers find it confusing. The rule regarding minibus seats having to face each other should also be removed – again other Councils don’t have it and its more dangerous as passengers often don’t wear seat belts in the rear.</p>

Order of Preference					Capacity of Respondent
1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	
C					Alvechurch Parish Council
A	D	E	C	B	Member of the Public
X					Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council

Option C was our only preferred option.

On the matter of tinted windows, Parish Councillors understood that this is covered by wider Government vehicle regulations, administered by the Police. If that's not the case, then private hire vehicles should not have tinted windows for passenger safety reasons.

Why has BDC not given the rationale for the original being imposed? Without this information it is hard to understand.

If the requirement is that passengers should be visible then option A would appear to be the least prescriptive option to fulfill this requirement.