

**RESPONSES RECEIVED TO QUESTIONS IN CONSULTATION SURVEY**

**Question 1:**

The Council is proposing that for vehicles that are powered fully by electricity or hydrogen fuel cell, the age limits should be amended as follows:

Maximum age when being licensed as a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle for the first occasion:

15 years of age for vehicles that are NOT wheelchair accessible vehicles

No age limit for vehicles that ARE wheelchair accessible

Maximum age when licence to use the vehicle as a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle is being renewed:

18 years of age for vehicles that are NOT wheelchair accessible vehicles

No age limit for vehicles that ARE wheelchair accessible

<b>Do you agree with the proposed age limits set out above for vehicles that are fully powered by electricity or hydrogen fuel cells?</b>		
<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW</b>
12 (60%)	4 (20%)	4 (20%)

<b>Reasons provided:</b>
Yes I do agree with it but, it has include Petrol and Diesel cars as well as a lot of us invested a lot of money in to ones and in current economic situation it would everyone to help switch to electric and hydrogen cars in future especially since those cars are very expensive at the moment. So please yes make it up 15 years age but for all cars Petrol diesel electric hydrogen as it would be big help.
Sorry electric car to expensive better we euro6 engine car or hybrid vehicle
That seems fair

## APPENDIX 2

I think following are the few main reasons for not taking electric cars: Battery lifespan concerns Charging infrastructure worries long charging time More expensive to buy Environment impact So if the council consider the Euro6 diesel and petrol cars for maximum age limit would be great and beneficial for the drivers too.

I don't know enough about them.

Too expensive and not a lot of miles from one charge

Simply due to the cost of newer vehicles, its a good idea to lift the age limit as drivers need to be encouraged to change to newer vehicles, the age limit increase offsets the cost of the vehicle.

Because modern cars are very well built. They can run long distances if they are looked after well.

The longer the vehicle can be used the better. For a battery EV, 46% of its total carbon footprint is generated at the factory, before it has travelled a single mile.

Yes that seems fair, but as i am over retirement age, I will not be purchasing one, as I probably will only carry on for a short while..I would never recover my money..

With the hope that they have a drastic drop in price

At the current time EV vehicles are not accessible to everyone and have wheelchair accessible vehicles of that age is neither safe or comfortable for their passengers

**Question 2:**

The Council is proposing that for vehicles that are ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEV), the age limits should be amended as follows:

Maximum age when being licensed as a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle for the first occasion:

12 years of age for vehicles that are NOT wheelchair accessible vehicles

15 years of age for vehicles that ARE wheelchair accessible

Maximum age when licence to use the vehicle as a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle is being renewed:

15 years of age for vehicles that are NOT wheelchair accessible vehicles

18 years of age for vehicles that ARE wheelchair accessible

Please note, in this context, an ultra-low emission vehicle is one having less than 75 grams of CO2 per kilometre (g/km) from the tail pipe.

Do you agree with the proposed age limits set out above for vehicles that are ultra-low emission vehicles?		
YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
16 (80%)	1 (5%)	3 (15%)

Reasons provided:
Good idea but you need to extend to all cars plated all ready to help us move to cleaner cars.
Very acceptable
I agreed with the proposals as the cost of second hand vehicles have increased a lot over the last couple of years, therefore making it more affordable, engines have improved a lot, adjusting to environmental emission friendly

## APPENDIX 2

If the taxi passed the MOT that is good enough

As previous answer

Because modern cars are very well built. They can run long distances if they are looked after well.

Providing the vehicle passes the mot and safety check it would be wasteful to replace it, I would prefer to keep the vehicle until it is no longer fit for purpose. Drivers are still recovering from the pandemic and the cost of a used 3-year-old replacement vehicle has increased by around 40% Unfortunately this means for the older driver it may not be viable to replace his vehicle forcing an earlier retirement.

Same answer as previous

**Question 3:**

For all other vehicles, the Council is proposing that the age limits should be amended as follows:

Maximum age when being licensed as a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle for the first occasion

9 years of age for vehicles that are NOT wheelchair accessible vehicles

12 years of age for vehicles that ARE wheelchair accessible vehicles

Maximum age when licence to use the vehicle as a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle is being renewed:

12 years of age for vehicles that are NOT wheelchair accessible vehicles

15 years of age for vehicles that ARE wheelchair accessible vehicles

<p><b>Do you agree with the proposed age limits set out above for all other vehicles (i.e. those that are not fully powered by electricity or hydrogen fuel cells and are not ultra-low emission vehicles)?</b></p>		
<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW</b>
17 (85%)	2 (10%)	1 (5%)

<p><b>Reasons provided:</b></p>
<p>12 years for regular cars it is OK but a little unfair compare to others cars It would be good if maximum age will be higher Due to rising cost of living, rising prices o cars and car parts 15 years of age will be great</p>
<p>Yes that would as the car prices today are very high.</p>
<p>Yes i agree</p>
<p>As mentioned on the previous page, vehicles have improved a lot.</p>

## APPENDIX 2

Cannot afford a new taxi with all what is going on with the economy

As previous answer

Because modern cars are very well built. They can run long distances if they are looked after well.

That seems very fair

I have a wheelchair accessible taxi in Bromsgrove. Second hand WAV's can be purchased with very low mileage and good service record as they are often ex Motability vehicles which are serviced as part of the lease agreement. Therefore older vehicles are not necessarily high mileage vehicles.

As we are still reeling from the lack of trade due to the pandemic and the huge lack in night-time trade i fear this could be extended to help us look into recovering revenue towards a newer vehicle.

**Question 4:**

Alongside considering amending vehicle age limits, the Council is also considering changing the requirements set out in their policy relating to the testing of licensed hackney carriage and private hire vehicles.

Currently licensed vehicles that are less than 7 years of age are required to be examined at the Council's Depot once per year, just before a licence for the vehicle is granted or renewed.

Vehicles that are over the age of 7 years are also required to have a further examination 6 months after the licence for the vehicle took effect.

The Council is proposing to amend these requirements as follows:

Vehicles under 7 years of age - examined once per year (just before a licence is granted or renewed)

Vehicles over 7 years of age and under 10 years of age - Examined twice per year (just before a licence is granted or renewed and 6 months after the licence takes effect)

Vehicles over 10 years of age - Examined three times per year (just before a licence is granted or renewed, 4 months after the licence takes effect and 8 months after the licence takes effect)

<b>Do you agree with the proposed vehicle testing requirements set out above?</b>		
<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>DON'T KNOW</b>
11 (55%)	9 (45%)	0 (0%)

<b>Reasons provided:</b>
Seems reasonable
I think 2 tests in any 1 year is enough..
It should be 2 times per year for vehicles over 10 years instead of 3 times per year as it would cost a lot more to examined 3 times per year.

## APPENDIX 2

I think 2 MOT'S even up to 12 years is enough.

I think you should allow mid-term tests to be done at any m.o.t test stations as its difficult to get a test at the council yard if VOSA allows a garage to test cars why shouldn't Bromsgrove Council accept that

One MOT test a year and one examined a year

Gives drivers extra time, especially those nearing retirement, and those that simply can't afford a newer vehicle. Extra mot each year is great.

Two times a year will be fine. Anything more than that is not necessary.

Yes I believe more regular tests for an older vehicle is sensible.

I think 2 mot tests a year is enough

I think it is good to regularly check vehicle is roadworthy.

Again extra expense. And Bromsgrove/Redditch would need to increase it's capacity for testing. Currently Bromsgrove can only perform 2 tests a day (as far as I am aware) This in itself is shocking and often leads to drivers being off the road whilst waiting for an appointment.



**Question 5:**

**Do you have any other comments you wish to make in connection with this matter?**

In general, I find rising age limit for vehicles a good thing I just hope we can rise age limit for regular cars more than 12 years old which with rising cost of Living will be huge help

All cars need to be extended to 15 years age as it is not easy at the moment with the cost of living it would help greatly.

I agree with everything, besides the 3 times a year testing...The rest seems very fair ...and needed

No

No all is said.

Again other councils allow different mot test centres to do the taxi test we are being discriminated against its costing us more money to keep a taxi on the road compared to say Wolverhampton plated cars which are working in Bromsgrove District Council picking up passengers its unfair competition

Reasons for wanting age extension:- 1. cost of 2nd hand vehicles has risen quite considerably & are not as affordable as they were before the pandemic. 2. 2 years of pandemic & drivers not working in that timeframe warrants an increase. 3. Keeps older reliable drivers employed. 4. Helps towards driver's financing for newer vehicles with increased age limit.

I am convinced that we need to keep all things longer than we do, including our vehicles. FUKUOKA, Japan — Old cars have a poor reputation for being “gas guzzlers” which just make global warming worse. However, a surprising new study reveals trading in your old car for a brand-new electric vehicle may actually be doing more harm than good. Researchers in Japan say choosing to keep and drive your older gasoline-powered car longer leads to fewer emissions entering the environment. A team from Kyushu University says most of the debate over gasoline and electric cars focuses on fuel efficiency and the CO2 emissions they produce. While electricity and hydrogen are cleaner energy sources, the study finds it still takes a lot of energy to build these vehicles. Specifically, researchers find keeping older fuel-efficient cars on the road longer reduces CO2 emissions significantly more than speeding up the global transition to green technology.  
<https://studyfinds.org/keeping-old-cars-help-environment-more-than-new-electric-cars/>

All in all, the proposals seem fair...Only the 3 tests, i disagree with

## Question 6

<b>In what capacity are you responding to this consultation (select all that apply):</b>	
An individual licensed by Bromsgrove District Council to drive hackney carriage and/or private hire vehicles	11
An individual licensed by Bromsgrove District Council to use a vehicle as a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle	10
An individual licensed by Bromsgrove District Council to operate private hire vehicles	3
Someone who uses hackney carriage or private hire vehicles	2
Other (please specify):	1
<u>Others specified:</u> Parish Councillor	