

Verbal Update – Decision Taken Under Urgency: Licensed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles – Extend 11 Year Age Limit Due to Covid-19

The Committee is asked to note that the Head of Community Services (in consultation with Councillor Jones, Councillor B Burgess, Councillor Jhans, and Councillor Jaggard) took an urgent decision on 9 February 2021 to extend the 11 year age limit of licensed vehicles due to COVID-19, with any extension being subject to the following conditions:

1. 12 month extension to run 01/02/21 – 31/01/22 only.
2. Those vehicles already afforded a 3 month extension (or other period) shall be awarded a further 9 months only, to ensure equality and fairness and allowing a 12 month extension in total.
3. The above is applicable only for those vehicles identified, for the term identified and is not transferrable to another vehicle.
4. A Certificate of Compliance is required at the application for an extension, and every 6 months thereafter.
5. An extension will be refused and the vehicle removed as a licensed vehicle if it is found that it does not meet the standards required by the Certificate of Compliance, and/or where the nominated Garage identifies a matter that impacts upon the vehicles safety or where it is no longer considered roadworthy.
6. A Nominated Licensing Officer of the Council may also form the view that to extend the term that a vehicle is licensed is unsuitable or inappropriate. This will be reviewed by the Team Leader for Health, Safety and Licensing, who will give written reasons where an extension is refused.

The decision was deemed 'urgent' as it could not wait until the next relevant Licensing Committee meeting, and it was therefore taken under, and in accordance with, [General Committee Procedure Rule 18](#) (Urgent Action). The Chief Executive, who has authority under this provision to take urgent decisions, authorised the Head of Community Services to take the decision on her behalf.

Notification of the decision was published via the Councillors' Information Bulletin on 9 February 2021 and can be viewed in full [here](#).