

Questions and Statements from the public to the Regulatory Committee on 20 November 2025

Item 7 – Licensed Taxis – Policy Requirement for Euro 6 Compliance

Question from Mr W

I have a 2014 licensed Euro 6-Seater Taxi. The vehicle has very low mileage, it's in good roadworthy condition and passes the twice-yearly Taxi Test set up by the council. I do not understand why the council will not issue a Hackney License to this vehicle for 2026. The actual cost to purchase a new or second-hand Taxi is prohibitive at the moment. The economic situation in this country is not good and trade is down and I am unable to afford to invest in another vehicle. Why should I be forced into this situation of selling my current Euro Taxi when it is in good order and, "Fit for Purpose", it has no logic !!!.

I therefore request that this policy with regard to Euro 5 Engines should be scrapped for all 2014 licensed Euro 6 Seater Taxis and that they should be allowed to run/ be granted the Hackney License for 2026/27. There should be no fixed year to take these vehicles off the road, they should be allowed to run their natural life. They will come off the road by failure to maintain or just sheer, 'WEAR and TEAR' and this is controlled by the twice-yearly Taxi Test, plus periodical Council Checks.

In terms of the pollution factors, the number of Licensed Euro 6-Seater Taxis is very small and frankly will not cause or contribute significantly to the overall air pollution in Chelmsford. Most of the vehicles with a Euro 5 Engines are privately owned by the general public.

I look forward to a positive outcome.

Question from Mr B

It's regarding the PH operator Licence and PH vehicle age when first licence.

1-can the committee allow to give choice to apply for 1 or 2 operator licence rather than 5 years (current policy) only.

2- can the committee show flexibility to use Euro 6 vehicle to licence (First) rather than 4 years old(Current policy)

These options are being used by different authorities up and down in the country.

I am suggesting these changes because recently we are seeing PH vehicles from different authorities working in the city without plates and door stickers of their authorities in other words hiding their identity. Daniel Winter and Chair of the committee is aware of these issues as I copies some emails to their adress if not all.

I hope respected committee will adress this issue and will encourage local operators and local vehicles to use locally for the safety of the residents of Chelmsford.

Question from Mr W

Hi I am a hackney driver in Chelmsford,my number plate is xxx disabled wheelchair Access vehicle.when I bought taxi in November 2014 ,I was told you can drive 12 years.As my taxi was first registered on 23 November 2014 and my 12 years completes on 23 November 2026.My question is can I drive my taxi until 23 November 2026.thanks