

Appendix A

Responses to consultation from licence holders

1.	<p>From: Sent: 16 May 2022 21:31 To: Enquiries, <enquiries@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk> Subject: Re: Forum minutes & consultations</p> <p>Proposal 1</p> <p>I think dropping the age restriction is good for the trade, not so good for the general public! I would promote a 6 monthly test on all plated vehicles either on age or annual mileage!</p> <p>Proposal 2</p> <p>I agree with the prohibiting PH plates to a roof sign.</p> <p>Hackney, I think this should only be compulsory when applying for hire! ie, when on the rank or empty and looking for flag downs. but when on bookings or out of town its down to the driver to decide.</p> <p>As you know, I do weddings and executive work and to display the top sign would seriously effect my business.</p> <p>Proposal 3.</p> <p>I don't understand why the council would consider a taxi driver more at risk than a 44 tonne HGV driver. I believe, they have a madical every five years from the age of 45 but you are proposing 3 years from any age! This I find extremely excessive. Bring in 5 year licence with a medical evry five years.</p> <p>Please note, this doesn't effect me either way as am over the 45 age category, but think it would be more fair for the younger drivers.</p> <p>Proposal 4</p> <p>Totally agree, no need to restrict the operation of rear loading wheelchair access!</p> <p>Again, this doesn't effect me as I drive a saloon car, just don't think it would be good for the trade.</p> <p>Hopefully, you will read my thoughts and comments as constructive and not just personal, I have answered questions which at this point in time have no relevance to me.</p>
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	<p>Hope this helps.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>From: Sent: 17 May 2022 06:04 To: Enquiries, <enquiries@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk> Subject: RE: Forum minutes & consultations</p> <p>I agree with all proposed changes</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>From: Sent: 26 May 2022 16:58 To: Enquiries, <enquiries@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk> Subject: Re: Forum minutes & consultations</p> <p>Good Afternoon John.</p> <p>Thank you for the update of the last meeting and consultation questionnaire . I have already completed this and sent it off. FYI my thoughts for this were as follows:-</p> <p>Roof signs for Taxis should be mandatory and licence details displayed both internally on the windscreen and the rear of the vehicle as the plastic licence plate. So no change here in Taunton for this.</p> <p>For Private Hire vehicles - licence details only displayed on the inside of the vehicle in the form of a disc (possibly both front and rear). This is common practice in London with all Private Hires.</p> <p>Private Hire vehicles should be allowed to advertise their service by way of a telephone number and or website booking address. Taunton's current signage system is OK.</p> <p>Licensing of both Taxis and Private Hire should be based on the Environmental Impact of the vehicle on first licence registration. Currently diesel vehicles I suggest should be Euro 6 or higher (that would be about 7 years old) and petrol vehicles Euro 4 or 5 (that would be 10years old or newer). Petrol vehicles have less of an environmental impact so a more lenient approach should be adopted.</p> <p>Taxi Medicals should be brought in line with national guidelines with PCV and HGV medicals. ie. first medical at the age of 45, and then every 5 years after that. (PS. you may want to check this as I have taken this off the internet).</p>