

Taxi Licensing Policy Consultation

Consultation Responses = 54

1. Do you think York has enough licensed taxis operating in the city?

Answer	Total
Yes	37
No	14
Don't know	3
Grand Total	54

2. If you answer no, why not? (only tick one box)

Answer	Total
a) There are always long queues of customers at taxi ranks	2
b) Taxis are never available at ranks	1
c) There are never enough taxis at peak times, e.g. school closing times	10
d) Other (please specify)	1
Grand Total	14

Other Responses:

“Try Doing A Unmet Demand Survey Without Prior Notice Many Cars Are Double Driven And Sometimes Triple Driven And This Gives An Artificial Reading Of Unmet Demand”

3. How many more taxis do you believe York needs? (only tick one box)

Answer	Total
a) 1-5	1
b) 6-10	3
c) 11-15	1
d) 16-20	6
e) More than 20 taxis please stipulate how many taxis you believe we need.	0
Grand Total	11

4. Do you think that we have enough wheelchair accessible taxis?

Answer	Total
Yes	23
No	6
Don't know	25
Grand Total	54

5. If you answered no to question 4, why don't you think that there are enough wheelchair accessible taxis in York? (only tick one box)

Answer	Total
a) There are never enough wheelchair accessible taxis at taxi ranks	1
b) There are never enough wheelchair accessible taxis at peak times, e.g. school closing time	2
c) Other	3
Grand Total	6

Other Responses:

- *“Because As A Wheelchair Accessible Taxi I Do Between 20 And 40 Jobs A Week And I Am Private Hire Also Try Booking A Wheelchair Taxi From Station Taxis And They Will No Take The Booking”.*
- *“I would have ticked both of the above if the form would let me.”*
- *“Rarely see many”*

6. How many more wheelchair accessible taxis do you believe York needs?
(only tick one box)

Answer	Total
a) 0-5	0
b) 6-10	2
c) 11-15	0
d) 16-20	3
e) More than 20 taxis (50 in this Case)	1
Grand Total	6

7. We currently have a policy that new taxis licences will only be issued to wheelchair accessible vehicles. Should this policy remain as it is, or should the policy be updated to also include low emission vehicles as well?

Answer	Total
a) Keep the current policy of only issuing licences to wheelchair accessible vehicles	7
b) Update the policy to also include low emission vehicles	21
c) Update the policy to only include low emission, wheelchair accessible vehicles	9
d) A vehicle type policy should not be in place	17
Grand Total	54

8. Do you believe that we should introduce a policy that new private hire vehicle licences will only be issued to low emission vehicles?

Answer	Total
Yes	30
No	23
Don't know	1
Grand Total	54

9. Do you believe that we should introduce a policy that all replacement vehicles for both taxis and private hire should be low emission vehicles?

Answer	Total
Yes	26
No	25
Don't know	3
Grand Total	54

10. Are you?

The holder of a York hackney carriage vehicle licence

Answer	Total
Yes	3
No	51
Don't know	0
Grand Total	54

The holder of a York hackney carriage driver licence

Answer	Total
Yes	3
No	51
Don't know	0
Grand Total	54

The holder of a York private hire vehicle licence

Answer	Total
Yes	4
No	50
Don't know	0
Grand Total	54

The holder of a York private hire driver licence

Answer	Total
Yes	3
No	51
Don't know	0
Grand Total	54

The holder of a York private hire operator licence

Answer	Total
Yes	2
No	52
Don't know	0
Grand Total	54

Currently on the waiting list for a York hackney carriage vehicle licence

Answer	Total
Yes	2
No	52
Don't know	0
Grand Total	54

Resident of the York area

Answer	Total
Yes	51
No	3
Don't know	0
Grand Total	54

Other (please specify)

NO RESPONSE

11. What is the first part of your postcode? e.g. YO10

Postcode	Total
YO1 9GJ	1
YO10 3EH	1
YO10 3EL	1
YO103HF	1
YO23 2RR	1
YO232QD	1
YO24 2TD	1
YO24 4PL	2
YO30 5UT	1
YO30 7DQ	1
YO31 0TZ	1
YO32 3QT	1
YO32 3WD	1
Not Given	40
Grand Total	54

If you have any additional comments please add then here:

- All private hire vehicles should be converted to Hackney Carriage, there is no point in keeping the Private Hire.
- There are some small engines now available which - although not hybrids - have very low emission levels. Certainly need to encourage the introduction of Prius+ style/size vehicles. Buses and commercial vehicles are a bigger source of pollution than cars. Some wheelchair friendly vehicles are very difficult for relatively ambient elderly people to get in and out of. The Council needs to further refine its vehicle approval process.

- The council is over stepping the mark and is a licenseing authority not a dictatorship, private hire is exactly that private enterprise providing a service to the general public, I agree that there should be a strict policy of licensing but to dictate what kind of vehicle that person uses is not what licensing is about. Licensing is about having competant safe people driving safe vehicles and those people respecting the licensing authority, and working within the guidelines set down by that authority.
- I strongly believe more should be done to encourage use of electric and low emission cars as York is currently choking under all the diesel vehicles being used .
- I believe that there should be more Taxis and less private hire vehicles so the total number is about right. Rational:- I stood for 20 freezing minutes at the station waiting in line for a taxi and I lost count the the private hire vehicles driving past empty. I also think that all taxis should be like London Cabs so there is no confusion when you get into one, they are all wheelchair friendly, can run on LPG and they should also all be black. Unlike London it is a rarity to be able to "hail a taxi" here in York.
- All those with a licence should have to take the Taxicard. It is very hard to find a hackney cab or a private hire car that takes them. When you ring up they are not interested.
- York has enough licensed hackney carriages to cope with the amount of work that we do. Yes, there are sometimes a queues waiting for taxis, however if there wasn't we would not be able to earn a living. As for low emissions private hire (new licenses) because of the amount of private hire there is, nearly 600 in comparison to 183 hackney carriages, it does make sense for them to be on a lower emission basis.
- If buses were more frequent and cheaper there would be a reduced demand for taxis.
- Low emission vehicles are more fuel efficient and cheaper to tax. It seems if taxi drivers could afford one they would. This policy seems to create hassle for lower-income prospective taxi drivers, for what is in essence a very trivial impact on pollution, when compared with i.e. many high emission 4x4s on the road. But putting in measures against 4x4s would only affect the rich.
- Taxi ranks late at night are usually well served.

- There should be no discrimination against the type of vehicle.
- The cost of a taxi is extortionate. E.g. £10 from York city centre to Bishopthorpe. A return train ticket to Leeds is only £12!
- There are far too many wheelchair friendly taxis already. They are uncomfortable to travel in and also difficult to climb into in the first place. My husband and I plus numerous other people we see hover around until a saloon/normal taxi becomes available. Elderly people including my parents cannot use them either. They have become an obsession and the ranks are full of them although virtually nobody, including the wheelchair users I know don't want them. They tell me that they want to get out of the wheelchair and travel like anybody else in a car seat instead of being labelled as 'different'.
- Nothing to do with taxis, but all buses should be either low emission or electric. There have been these types of buses operating in many other countries for many years. It is time we got up to speed.
- Taxi drivers should be made to sit an advanced safety exam as they are often driving dangerously and recklessly, particularly towards cyclists or others whom they perceive to be un-deserving of road space.
- I have been concerned for a long time that licenses are bought up in batches by middlemen and then sold or leased on in some way on an individual basis so that the middlemen are making a considerable profit. I don't believe the Council should permit middlemen to do this and would like to see a restriction on the number of licenses any individual can hold. If anyone is to make a profit out of the actual licences it should be the Council itself, with savings to Council tax payers in consequence.
- Low emissions are desirable but bio fuels are environmentally destructive and should not be encouraged. Taxi / Private Hire drivers are the most ignorant and worst drivers on the road. They consider themselves above the law. People should be actively encouraged to report all incidents of law breaking by taxi drivers to the council and the council should use their power to suspend or withdraw licences from individual drivers and companies.
- I sometimes hear taxi drivers hoot their horns when stationary to alert their prospective passenger that the taxi has arrived. I would like them to be instructed to leave their vehicle and knock or ring at the person's door, and thus comply with the law on the sounding of horns in built-up areas.