

CRITERIA FOR THE DURATION OF PRIVATE HIRE/HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER'S LICENCES

The Local Government (Miscellaneous) Provision Act 1976 currently states that a Council may grant a private hire or hackney carriage driver's licence for a period of up to three years.

The Deregulation Act 2015 has amended the 1976 Act by removing a Council's discretion to set a licence duration in local policy and making a standard duration three years or "for such lesser period, specified in the licence, as the Council think appropriate in the circumstances of the case".

The Licensing Committee through Policy has determined that the Council will grant licences for one year when deemed appropriate and has provided criteria as guidance to applicants / current licence holders when applying for a one year licence.

From March 2016 Licensing Officers of the Council will consider issuing a licence for one year in the following circumstances:

- The applicant has requested a one year licence due to financial reasons;
- The applicant is due to retire or may cease being a driver.

Other circumstances may arise that are not covered above, in this event the applicant's case will be put to the Chair or Deputy Chair of the Licensing Committee by the Licensing Officer who will determine the request for a one year licence. The Chair may decide to put the case to the Licensing Sub-Committee for determination.

Although it is the default position of the Council to grant a licence for three years, except as described above where an applicant has requested a one year licence, there are special circumstances where only a one year licence will be issued, these are:

- An applicant has attended a Licensing Committee for suitability/continued suitability and it has been determined that it is appropriate to grant a one year licence;
- The applicant has yet to complete the requirement to obtain the level 2 Certificate "Introduction to the Role of The Professional Taxi and Private Hire Driver" within the first twelve months of being granted a licence and the Committee determine that it is appropriate to grant a one year licence due to mitigating circumstances;

- The applicant has yet to complete the requirement to undertake safeguarding training approved by the Licensing Committee and endorsed by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Board.