

LICENSING AND REGULATORY SUB-COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2025

Present:

Councillors Foden, Hayes and Rollason

Officers in Attendance:

Licensing Officer

Legal Officer

211. APOLOGIES

None.

212. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (IF ANY)

None.

213. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 7 and 27 August 2025 were unanimously approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

214. REQUEST FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE EXTENSION FOR FURTHER 12 MONTHS - H077

The Sub-Committee noted the information provided by way of the report. In particular the Sub-Committee noted that the vehicle's MOT certificate expires in August 2026, with two minor defects and four advisories. The vehicle passed its annual taxi inspection test with advisories. The Applicant was in attendance and answered questions from the Sub-Committee explaining that the vehicle's engine had had a catastrophic failure before the MOT and vehicle test, but the licence application had to be submitted and so was put in for its MOT. All advisories on the MOT have now been fixed other than the numberplate, which is due to be replaced, and the suspension has also been fixed.

The Sub-Committee were satisfied that the vehicle was in a good and sound condition and that public safety would not be compromised by the granting of the licence sought.

Decision

Accordingly, the Sub-Committee grants the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence Extension as detailed in the report with the additional condition that the vehicle undergoes four monthly vehicle tests to monitor the condition of the vehicle due to its age and the advisories listed.

215. REQUEST FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE EXTENSION FOR FURTHER 12 MONTHS - H037

The Sub-Committee noted the information provided by way of the report. In particular the Sub-Committee noted that the vehicle's MOT certificate expires in July 2026, with eight advisories. The vehicle passed its annual taxi inspection test with advisories. The Applicant was in attendance and answered questions from the Sub-Committee confirming that the seatbelt, indicators and rear suspension has been fixed. The oil leak may be from a recent oil change and not an actual leak. The wheel alignment has also been done when the tyres were changed.

The Sub-Committee commented that the vehicle maintenance needed to be kept on top of and not be reactive following an MOT as it indicates that the vehicle is not always being kept to a safe standard. The Applicant confirmed that any advisories are fixed once when highlighted.

The Sub-Committee were satisfied that the vehicle was in a good and sound condition and that public safety would not be compromised by the granting of the licence sought.

Decision

Accordingly, the Sub-Committee grants the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence Extension as detailed in the report with the additional condition that the vehicle undergoes four monthly vehicle tests to monitor the condition of the vehicle due to its age and the advisories listed.

216. REQUEST FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE EXTENSION FOR FURTHER 12 MONTHS - H444

The Sub-Committee noted the information provided by way of the report. In particular the Sub-Committee noted that the vehicle's MOT certificate expires in August 2026, with one advisory. The vehicle passed its annual taxi inspection test with one advisory. The Applicant was in attendance and answered questions from the Sub-Committee explaining the tyre had been replaced and the vehicle is serviced regularly with any issues rectified when identified.

The Sub-Committee were satisfied that the vehicle was in a good and sound condition and that public safety would not be compromised by the granting of the licence sought.

Decision

Accordingly, the Sub-Committee grants the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence Extension as detailed in the report with the additional condition that the vehicle undergoes six monthly vehicle tests to monitor the condition of the vehicle due to its age.

217. REQUEST FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE OVER 5 YEARS - SO65 LNY

The Sub-Committee noted the information provided by way of the report. In particular the Sub-Committee noted that the vehicle's MOT certificate expires in September

2026, with four advisories. The vehicle passed its annual taxi inspection test with advisories. The Applicant was unable to be in attendance, but the Licensing Officer explained the missing stickers mentioned on the vehicle test would be provided with the plate if granted.

The Sub-Committee were satisfied that the vehicle was in a good and sound condition and that public safety would not be compromised by the granting of the licence sought.

Decision

Accordingly, the Sub-Committee grants the new Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence Extension as detailed in the report with the additional condition that the vehicle undergoes six monthly vehicle tests to monitor the condition of the vehicle due to the advisories listed on the MOT. The Sub-Committee also asked that the fuel leak be investigated further and the tyre with a nail in replaced if needed.

218. REQUEST FOR A SMALL PLATE FOR A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE - P765

The Sub-Committee noted the information provided by way of the report. The Applicant was in attendance and explained that the vehicle would be used mainly for airport/seaport transfers, and he has a confirmed contract with a company to undertake these. The vehicle is based in Chudleigh and so will rarely be in town picking up customers. Customers have fed back that they prefer a smaller more discreet plate.

The Sub-Committee were satisfied that the vehicle was in a good and sound condition and that public safety would not be compromised by the granting of the licence sought.

Decision

The application to display a small plate on vehicle Ford Focus, vehicle registration FD21 DXU be approved.

Having considered the photos of the vehicle, read all written material, and listened to the representation by the Licensing Officer and having heard what the applicant's work entails, the Sub-Committee considered the resolution above would be best suited to the applicant whilst meeting the Council's licensing responsibilities.

Cllr Hayes
Chair