

Age of vehicles on fleet working to improve Emissions (New/Current). With the shift towards electric vehicles and the issues around emissions we all have a responsibility to ensure we do our bit for the environment. With this in mind and looking at neighbouring councils I would recommend a change to our conditions re age of vehicles. We have always had a restriction of 8 years for a new vehicle to be licenced, however this condition has been relaxed with the council allowing any age vehicle to be licenced. West Lancs for example do not allow a vehicle older than 6 (six) years to be licenced for the first time. How can Sefton now accept that a complete removal of age is the best way forward? In light of information now available and the council attempting to reduce emissions I would suggest we keep the 8 year rule we have and we remove the exemption for vehicles over 8 years being licenced. This means that no vehicle over 8 years old can be licenced for the first time (to include hackneys currently at 11 years). Further to this any vehicle currently licenced but who allows the licence to lapse must renew that licence before 3 months from the date of expiry date. (we changed that condition to six months) This will help reduce the number of older vehicles polluting our area.

Testing for age related vehicles. Current conditions require 6 month testing for vehicles over 8 years old and 11 years for purpose built hackney vehicles. Experience tells me that Hackney Vehicles fail more than the normal cars and therefore I would propose that the 11 year condition be moved in line with the cars to 8 years. We should be looking to reduce this in the future to all vehicles should require 6 monthly testing at 6 years and no vehicle shall be allowed on first time over 6 years old but this is something we should be looking to achieve over the next 2-3 years. An average car/taxi would cover around 40k miles per year so it would only be right to expect on grounds of safety that vehicle should be tested more than once per year when it reaches 6 years old.

THIS CAN FIT IN WITH THE TESTING STATION REVIEW