

## **6.10 Wheelchair Accessibility**

The council does not cap the number of hackney carriage vehicles which meet the age criteria and are wheelchair accessible.

The council does cap the number of non-wheelchair accessible hackney carriage vehicles to 100. This number will be regulated by the Licensing Manager and will only be increased if the market demands through evidence of significant unmet demand from the public.

The council will review the number of non-wheelchair accessible hackney carriage vehicles on its fleet every 6 months on 1<sup>st</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> November each year, when the number of non-wheelchair accessible hackney carriage vehicles is lower than 100 vehicles currently licenced.

Applications will be assessed by officers, priority will be given to proprietors of currently licenced private hire vehicles or a proprietor of a currently licence wheelchair accessible hackney carriage vehicle whom does not possess legacy rights to change the licenced vehicle to a non-wheelchair accessible vehicle.

Hackney Carriage Proprietors in possession of a current non wheelchair accessible Hackney Carriage vehicle licence that was issued to them before April 2022 may continue to replace their vehicle with either a wheelchair accessible vehicle or a non-wheelchair accessible vehicle, as they would still hold legacy rights of a non-wheelchair accessible hackney carriage licence.

The decision will be reviewed in 2025, when the Council will consider whether there is still a balance of vehicles for all taxi users, and thus if the authority is complying with its duty under section 165 Equalities act 2010.