

HCV LEVC policy consultation responses

The consultation ran from Friday 15th November 2017 to Wednesday 3rd December 2017. The proposed changes were communicated to the trade via the Taxi Newsletter on Friday 15th November 2017.

In total 5 responses were received, all of which received by email.

Of the one positive comment that was received:

1. Pursuing electric taxis for a cleaner Bristol seems a great idea.

Of the negative comments that were received:

1. The age limit should be increased to 20 years to make the cost of the vehicle more viable.
2. The infrastructure to support rapid chargers is not in place to service the taxis, or the investment a driver is expected to make.
3. Anything less than 15 years is a waste of money, electric vehicles are too expensive.
4. Drivers will need to work more hours to pay for this vehicle, or even Euro 6.
5. Overall Council standards (policies) should be reduced.
6. Drivers can't pay for this vehicle when work is 'given to others' (reference to made to an International Organisation).
7. That the policies do not benefit the people of Bristol.

The proposed change

To increase age limit from 12 years to 15 years in respect of the electric TX model only- applicable to replacement and new to fleet vehicles.

Respondents

Responses were received from 5 members of the public across the city and outside the Local Authority boundary (BS2, BS5, BS16, BS21, BS31). All responses were made by Licensed Drivers.

Of the 5 responses received, 1 response appeared neutral to the idea of this change. The response seemed more focussed on future-proofing the policies by having the infrastructure in place to support electric vehicles. It was suggested that pursuing electric vehicles for a cleaner Bristol would be a great idea.

The remaining 4 responses were heavily critical of the Council's current policies. The focus of these responses was mainly based on issues surrounding out of town drivers, Uber, and the cost of purchasing a Euro 6 or electric vehicle.

1 response appeared to suggest a move to South Gloucestershire to buy a cheaper vehicle. 1 response appeared to suggest further demonstrations by members of the trade in relation to Council policies.

Equalities Monitoring

Equalities Monitoring was not captured during this consultation.