

IV POLICY ON TAXIS (AN16-2016)

Discussions have taken place with the taxi trade at several taxi liaison meetings regarding air quality issues and company licences.

Electric vehicles have no emissions and a number of such vehicles are currently on service as private hire cars.

These vehicles are more expensive than a saloon car (although running costs are lower) and to encourage operators to invest, it is recommended that any existing operators who hold taxi licences, or private hire cars in their own name, be granted a licence in a corporate name, provided an electric vehicle is placed on service and the existing licences surrendered.

This will be on a like for like basis i.e., a wheelchair accessible vehicle for a wheelchair accessible vehicle or a saloon car for a saloon car.

The Nissan Leaf (with clear glass) and the Kia Soul EV are examples of saloon cars which would be acceptable and the Metrocab and TX5 are acceptable WAVs. These latter type of vehicles are extremely expensive but it is anticipated that the eNV2000 is likely to be available in the short term and this vehicle is expected to cost not much more than a Peugeot Premier.

This change would be purely on a voluntary basis, in other words, operators would not be compelled to take advantage of this, unless they wished to do so.

City Development Department are currently progressing a bid for grant funding from the UK Government and it is envisaged that, if successful, this will result in funding for additional taxi related initiatives to be progressed.