



30<sup>th</sup> March 2010

**Ref: Vehicle Age Extension**

The BLTF has consulted its members on the new proposals concerning the criteria for issuing extensions for future vehicles.

There are two concerns we have about these recommendations:

- 1) The issue of service records could cause problems as it is very vague. Would it be for main dealer service record, or the odd receipt from mobile mechanics or a chitty from a mechanic who has done a bit of work on the side? We feel this could be open to all sorts of interpretations or misinterpretations and if this were to be included in the official criteria it would have to be far more specific. We do not feel that the service records are relevant, as a car presented to the Council for age extension would have had a thorough mechanical check through the MOT / Hackney Carriage confirming its mechanical wellbeing and also a thorough cosmetic inspection. The whole purpose of a MOT and a Hackney Carriage test is to ascertain that a car is in good mechanical order and meets all safety requirements
- 2) The issue of what would constitute abnormally low mileage should be based on National averages of miles recorded by Hackney Carriage Vehicles. On the research we have carried out the average seems to be around the 40,000 mark. We would therefore agree that the recommendation of 30,000 miles per annum would constitute abnormally low mileage. However we do have concerns on the proposal to set a lower mileage for Saloon cars. As we understand the need for this criterion for Age Extensions would be to meet public safety requirements. Our members are curious as to why a wheelchair assessable vehicle would be safer to convey passengers at the higher mileage than a saloon car. We feel that the 30,000 miles per annum should apply to both wheelchair vehicles and saloon cars as structurally and mechanically there is no difference between these vehicles.

We would hope that before a final decision is made, the Committee will take these points into consideration.

John Yexley *GMB PDB*  
Andrew Watson *GMB PDB*

**Robert Sexton - age limitation of vehicles ref Ln/200600724**

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**From:** tom carroll  
**To:** robert sexton  
**Date:** 03 March 2010 12:42  
**Subject:** age limitation of vehicles ref Ln/200600724  
**CC:**

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Dear Mr Sexton

Further to your letter on the above , I think that the council should be looking to extend the life of all working vehicles, by at least two years, because of the advances in engine and bodywork technology, and the current economic climate. Car engines ( especially diesels) these days can quite easily go on to up to 500,000 miles no problem, providing the car is regularly maintained ,which most are ,with the newer stricter mot and council inspection tests. It would be really good , if the council were to show a bit more empathy with the taxi trade as currently no regularly working, hackney carriage or private hire vehicle , is ever going to meet the "abnromally low mileage criteria". So why waste Council tax payers money with consultations and commitees, when we all know the end result will not change

Yours Sincerely

T P Carroll Badge number 142