

LICENSING TEAM

Southampton and Eastleigh Licensing Partnership

Southampton City Council
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Southampton
SO14 7LY

Licensing Team,
Southampton & Eastleigh Licensing
Partnership
PO Box 1767, Southampton SO18 9LA



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Please ask for: Russell Hawkins

5th July 2021

Dear Vehicle Proprietor

Clean Air – Change of Conditions for Wheelchair Accessable Vehicles

As you may already be aware, Southampton City Council is required to reduce levels of pollution in the city as quickly as possible and has therefore been required by central government to implement changes that will reduce emissions and improve air quality. These changes mean diesel vehicles with a euro 5 standard of engine will be removed from the fleet by the end of 2022.

Both the Licensing department and the trade have been concerned for some time that there seems to be a lack of suitable alternative wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAV's) available to replace those vehicles as there are no viable hybrid designs filtering through the marketplace. This is likely to lead to a shortage of WAV's and have a detrimental effect on those passengers and the proprietors and businesses that operate them.

As a result of these concerns, the Clean Air Team submitted a change request to our commitment to DEFRA to allow WAVs, within the age policy, with a Euro 5 diesel engine an extra two years to remain licensed. Note that this change will not affect vehicles that cannot be renewed because they exceed the age limit on this type of vehicle which remains set at 12 years. This will apply to vehicles currently licensed only, we will be unable to licence any euro 5 diesel vehicles as either new vehicles or by a change of vehicle.

The additional condition proposed to be added to vehicle licences:

- 3.5.3 No diesel wheelchair accessible vehicle with an emissions standard of level 5 (Euro 5) or lower will be licensed or relicensed by way of renewal on or after 1st January 2024 unless the vehicle has been converted with approved CVRAS technology. See 3.5.2

Section 3.5.1 will be amended as follows:

- 3.5.1 With the exception of vehicles detailed in 3.5.3 no diesel vehicle with an emissions standard of level 5 (Euro 5) or lower will be licensed or relicensed by way of renewal

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on or after 1st January 2022 unless the vehicle has been converted with approved CVRAS technology. See 3.5.2

As part of this consultation process the Council is inviting stakeholders and other interested parties to make known their views by emailing:
licensing.consultations@southampton.gov.uk

Or writing to:
Licensing Consultations
Southampton & Eastleigh Licensing Partnership
PO Box 1767
Southampton
SO18 9LA

The consultation will last for eight weeks, commencing on Monday 5th July, finishing at midnight on Sunday 29th August 2021. Those taking part in the consultation will be expected to provide their name address and/or email address. However, they may choose to provide further personal data to illustrate or support their views. The personal data provided might include an address or area they live in, place of work, occupation, medical conditions. The original emails will be retained in line with the Council's retention policy.

Once the consultation process is complete the comments made along with the name of the person making each comment will be made available to Councillors and published via the Council's website. The legal basis for using personal data in this way is because it is necessary for activities that support or promote democratic engagement. This information will remain available on the Council website. If you submit a comment as part of the consultation process and you would not like your name or any part of your comments published please make this clear in your email or letter. Further information about how the Council handles your data can be found in the Council's Privacy Notice at www.southampton.gov.uk/contact-us/privacy-cookies/privacy-policy.aspx

To support the trade in meeting these requirements, grants have been made available to upgrade from a non-compliant vehicle to a hybrid, plug-in hybrid or full electric vehicle. From May 2019 grants were also be available to upgrade wheelchair accessible or vehicles that can carry 5-8 passengers from non-compliant to euro 5 or 6 petrol and euro 6 diesel. Funding will continue to be offered until the end of this year as funds allow. Details can be found here:
<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/environmental-issues/pollution/air-quality/concessions/>

Yours sincerely



Russell Hawkins
Senior Licensing Officer

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Southampton Low Emission Taxi Incentive Scheme

We're offering cashback on licensing costs for you to replace your older, more polluting vehicle with a new or used low emission alternative. This offer is available until May 2021, but from May 2020 the cashback amount will reduce by half. So we encourage you take advantage of it sooner rather than later.

Key Terms and Conditions

- 1 The current vehicle must be a Euro 3 petrol or Euro 5 diesel or older.
- 2 You must have been the current vehicles proprietor for at least the previous 12 months.
- 3 The current vehicle has been licensed in Southampton for the previous 12 months.
- 4 The current vehicle has driven at least 8,000 miles in the previous 12 months.
- 5 The current vehicle won't be re-licensed as a taxi or private hire vehicle.
- 6 The new vehicle will meet all other licensing requirements.
- 7 The new vehicle has not already been licensed as a taxi or private hire vehicle in Southampton.
- 8 The new vehicle will remain licensed in Southampton for three years with the same proprietorship.
- 9 Vehicle proprietors are limited to a maximum grant award of £7,000 each.
- 10 Applications will only be considered when submitted prior to the new vehicle being licensed.

The above terms are subject to change at the discretion of Southampton City Council. A full set of terms will be issued with any formal grant offer.

How to apply

- 1 Application forms can be collected from the licensing office.
- 2 The application forms must then be returned to the licensing office.
- 3 If you're successful, you'll need to sign a conditional grant offer.
- 4 Once you've received the offer, replace your vehicle and then you will receive a cheque for the grant.

Southampton City Council may at its absolute discretion reject any application and will give reasons for that decision.

| OPTION | DESCRIPTION | MAY 2019-20 | MAY 2020-21 |
|---|--|-------------|-------------|
| Full Electric | A vehicle with an original specification of being powered only by a battery charged from the electricity grid. | £3,000 | £1,500 |
| Plug-In Hybrid Electric | A vehicle with an original specification of being powered by a plug-in battery and an Internal Combustion Engine (ICE). After the battery range is utilised the vehicle reverts to conventional hybrid operation (Minimum Euro 4 Petrol or Euro 6 Diesel). | £2,000 | £1,000 |
| Full Hybrid Electric | A vehicle with an original specification of being powered by an ICE and is capable of being powered solely using a battery and electric motor. Battery cannot be plugged in, and is charged during driving. (Minimum Euro 4 Petrol or Euro 6 Diesel Engine). | £1,500 | £750 |
| Euro 5 or 6 Petrol or Euro 6 Diesel (5-8 passengers and wheelchair accessible only) | A vehicle meeting Euro 5 or 6 European emission standard if petrol or Euro 6 if diesel, capable of carrying 5-8 passengers or is wheelchair accessible. | £1,500 | £750 |



southampton.gov.uk/letis

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