



## **RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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Council Offices  
Church Walk, Clitheroe  
Lancashire BB7 2RA  
Tel: 01200 425111  
[www.ribblevalley.gov.uk](http://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk)

Please ask  
for:  
direct line:  
email:  
my ref:  
date:

Stephen Barker  
01200 413216  
[Stephen.barker@ribblevalley.gov.uk](mailto:Stephen.barker@ribblevalley.gov.uk)  
SJB

6 February 2024

Dear Sirs

**RE: Consultation on ELAP seats, wheelchair access provision and disability awareness training**

I write to inform you that the Council's Licensing Committee has recently resolved to consult on whether the current provision of Hackney Carriages with ELAP seats and fully wheelchair accessible vehicles remains appropriate. The Council is also consulting on introduction of a requirement for disability awareness training on renewal of licences for Hackney Carriage and Private hire vehicles. The Council seeks your views.

If you wish to respond with your views on this, please do so in writing using the enclosed form and submitting it to Joanne Steer at the above address or at [TaxiLicensing@ribblevalley.gov.uk](mailto:TaxiLicensing@ribblevalley.gov.uk) on or before **Monday 13 March 2024**.

Please contact me or Joanne if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

STEPHEN BARKER  
SOLICITOR  
RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

*To all private hire drivers, operator's licence holders & all hackney carriage driver licence holders, groups representing disabled people.*



Ribble Valley  
Borough Council  
[www.ribblevalley.gov.uk](http://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk)

On 30 January 2024, the Council's Licensing Committee considered a report with regard to ELAP seats and wheelchair access provision in relation to Hackney Carriages and disability awareness training being required on renewal of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle drivers' licences. The Council's officers were instructed to consult with the trade and with all interested or affected parties on proposed amendment to the Council's Licensing Policy in respect of Hackney Carriages, Private Hire vehicles, operators and drivers.

A copy of that report can be found at the link below:

<https://democracy.ribblevalley.gov.uk/documents/s6581/ELAP%20SEATS%20AND%20WHEELCHAIR%20ACCESS%20PROVISION.pdf>

Consultation is taking place on:-

- Whether there should be an additional 5 Hackney Carriage vehicle licences available for issue by the Council, with a requirement for such vehicles to be fully wheelchair accessible from the side
- Whether the requirement for 8 Hackney Carriages to be licenced with a requirement to be fitted with ELAP seats should be retained
- Whether any replacement of a Hackney Carriage with an ELAP seat should be required to be with a vehicle which is fully wheelchair accessible from the side
- Whether drivers renewing Hackney Carriage or Private Hire vehicle driving licences should be required to undergo disability awareness training and, if so, at what intervals

If you have any difficulty accessing these documents or require any further information, please contact us. Paper copies can be obtained in the Council offices or posted to you if required.

### **Timetable**

The Consultation will run from 7 February 2024 to 13 March 2024 and the results will then be reported to Committee.

If you wish to respond with your views, please do this by completing the enclosed form and submitting it to **Joanne Steer** at the Council Offices on or before **13 March 2024**.



**CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM**

**Name:** .....  
**Address:** .....  
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**Capacity of consultee** (eg driver, operator, representative of group consulted, other)

**Licence No:** ..... (if applicable)

**Contact details:** .....  
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**ELAP seats, Wheelchair access provision and disability awareness training**

I support/do not support addition of 5 more Hackney carriage vehicle licences, with such vehicles being fully wheelchair accessible from the side

**Comments:-** .....  
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I support/do not support retention of the requirement for 8 Hackney Carriage vehicle licences to require that an ELAP seat should be fitted to the vehicle

**Comments:-** .....  
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**I support/do not support a requirement for replacement of the licence for any hackney Carriage vehicle which formerly had an ELAP seat to be by a vehicle which is fully wheelchair accessible from the side**

**Comments:-** .....

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**I support the introduction of a requirement for hackney carriage and private hire vehicles drivers to undertake disability awareness training on renewal of their licence**

**Comments (including any suggested intervals for refresher training).**

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