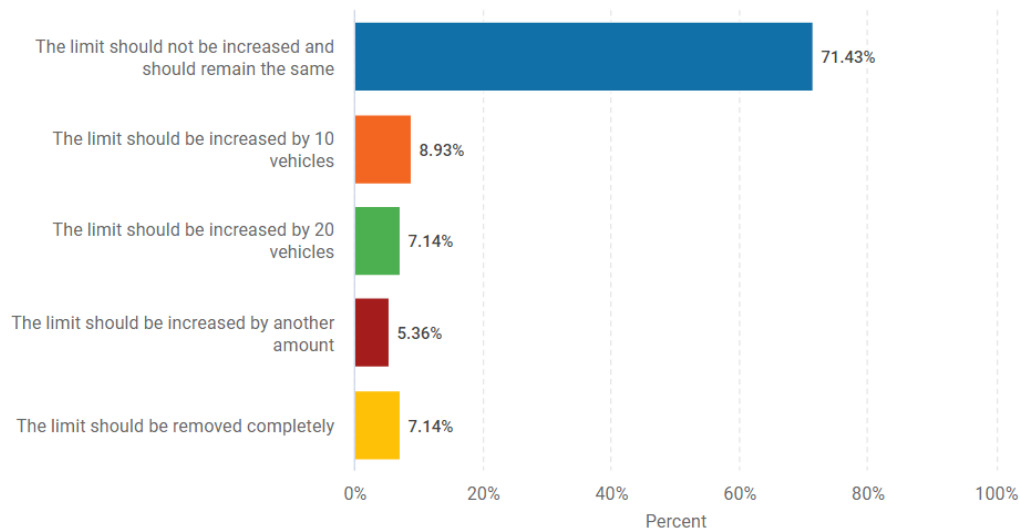


## Appendix B

How much do you think the current Hackney Carriage vehicle limit should be increased by? Please explain the reasons for your answer in the comments field below. One answer only.



### Comments:

For the next 3 years i think a unlimited number should be allowed as i am trying to increase my taxi company its veru hard to expand if the plates are limited i would hope to grow buy 5-10 extra taxis in the next 3 years

I totally agree for the increase of drivers as customers needs our service.

when the council provides more rank spaces then increase the amount of taxis I would say 3 percent

Unless you open up more rank space ie Fore St in Hertford there is no room for more taxis as we can't get on the ranks of a weekend as it is

I believe the current number of vehicles is sufficient.

In my opinion the amount of Hackney Carriages is on the right level. There is also a lot of private hire vehicles which fills up the demand.

Agree with survey

There is not enough work for us

The limit should me maintained for hackney carriage vehicles as most times I visit ranks they are full with licensed vehicles that day and night and weekend peak times  
Maybe the councils should look at the amount of  
Uber vehicles plying for hire in our area and doing so at large and in full view eg fore street  
Maybe also the council should be looking at reducing the fees to licensed driver as we are paying as much if not more than some licensed premises .

Your unmet demand is being more than covered by the huge increase in UBER manoeuvres and the fact that the local (Bishops Stortford) 2 largest companies are working a significant amount of yellow plates / Uttlesford plates / Epping Forest plates oh and I think Broxbourne plate

Not enough taxis available, and the older drivers not prepared to work late or drive long distances

Bishops Stortford has seen a huge increase in housing and demand - it would be beneficial to the public to have more Hackney Carriage Vehicles available to meet demand in the town.

As the area is now flooded with Uber I cannot understand the so called shortage of supply of Taxis

Due to the current economic situation with in the United Kingdom there is not enough fares being undertaken by the public adding another ten or more licences taxis would seriously impact on the earnings of all east Herts licence taxis.
How can you increase the number when there is so few taxi rank spaces available now that the Fore st rank has disappeared
In Bishop Stortford East Herts council Has flooded yellow plates, vehicles I'm sitting about 1hour Pur job So instead of increasing decreasing yellow plates completely
As a Hackney carriage driver (for 10 years now) I've been renting a cab for 5 years, having the number of capped has prevented me from buying my own cab. So I believe the number should be increased by at least 50 and given out on a seniority basis.
To be enough for the service
This was initiated by greedy company operators wanting to collect rent from more drivers, no consideration for independents. Also the amount of licenced cars from Uttlesford working in Bishops Stortford, the amount of p plates working, doing booked work, previously done by dual drivers. Ranks are now full of company drivers who have no work. The review was taken before Christmas when demand was high. It should have taken sample of work in January or February when we are struggling to earn a living and even get on the rank as its flooded.
We have all the taxis we need have a look in Hertford in the daytime
There are still to many taxis at weekends in Hertford for the amount of taxi rank space that we can never get on because of cars parked on them and no tickets being put on the cars
The driver number at the moment exceeds the number of work available due to our rivals like UBER and BOLT taking a huge chunk of our customers.
Not enough work for the cars that are working in Bishops Stortford now
The reason I'm not sure when you have done the survey because yes we did have issues with shortage of taxes after Covid, but we don't have issue anymore because the sometime seat round for two hours to get a one job plus the Uber is killing our business every weekend and every evening
A lot of part time drivers
There's loads taxis sitting about during the day time
We need drivers foxholes had 36 before covid we now have about 10
I mainly work off the rank outside Sainsbury's in Riverside, Bishops Stortford. Your survey was carried out during a relatively busy period. If you were to do the survey now, your results would be completely different! Unfortunately we are plying our trade on an unlevel playing field. This in the main is caused by Associated Taxis who have flooded the market with taxis licensed from outside East Herts. This in turn is forcing more Associated drivers who are licensed by East Herts to sit on the rank at Riverside that would normally not be there because they do not have enough work themselves. This means as an independent driver, I have far less work than I ever did before. Until you address the issue Associated are causing. The very notion of you wanting to increase the licence numbers is quite ludicrous!
Current market shows no need currently to increase numbers
Drivers leaving the industry are handing back Hackneys due to low "street demand". New Drivers coming into the industry tend to be "new generation" preferring to work as PH Drivers through technology.
none
none
The Ranks are mostly full and we can hardly sit on the ranks because of this. Uber have killed the trade.
Because the work conditions in district is not good people hardly use licensed taxis .most of the people using Uber and the driver of east heart are struggling to live at the moment

There's not enough work for us anyway and adding more will then will be even more less work but it's the licensing team's decision.
Along as standards are not lowered.
The trade is not an exact science. When it is busy there are never enough taxis but when things calm down you all seem to sit around too long.
Some times during the day or Friday and Saturday nights there may be a shortage. This is not due to a lack of licensed vehicles, its because many drivers do not work these times. Often at school times there is a shortage because many drivers take on school contracts. Increasing the numbers will not remedy this because any new plated vehicles will not only work Friday and Saturday nights and willseek out s hool contracts. It may also thin out the work at other times. Just my opinion.
Customer are struggle to find the Hackney cab.
In my opinion as a Hackney Carriage Driver should be more Hackney Carriage Drivers than Private Hire Drivers.
It's bad enough where taxi's can rank up now especially in Fore St Hertford on a Friday and Saturday evening as the general public park in the taxi rank and there is no enforcement to move them on.
I see every day that drivers waiting for jobs, more licenses means more drivers on the rank where there is no space for existing drivers.
We are dinasaurs.most people use Uber now
I think it should increase by 20 vehicle because specially weekend there is always need for more taxi, if there is no taxi on the rank passenger call Uber and Fore street rank should be open as before as an urgent.
There are a few reasons that I hope EHDC will take into account when deciding whether to license more vehicles. Firstly, the reason why locals in Hertford may have struggled to get a taxi at certain times of the day, is because there is so little trade during the day. Drivers have been forced to obtain contract work such as school runs to supplement their income. Trade at the weekend has been made more difficult, and therefore less attractive, due to private cars occupying rank space in Fore Street, with no enforcement to deter them. Secondly, the growing number of unlicensed cars and drivers working in Hertford (along with Uber cars) is presenting a distorted number of how many cars are actually plying for hire in the town. Increasing the number of licensed vehicles (particularly with new drivers) would merely add to the number of taxis used for contract work, and not solve any apparent shortfall in supply. Once drivers realise that not every month is like December (when the survey was carried out) they will be forced to look for work in other avenues. The trade has recently emerged from a near-catastrophic period. The last thing it needs, after shouldering increased costs in further regulation regarding driver and vehicle licensing, are measures to reduce their earning capacity further. Please let the trade recover before increasing taxi numbers in Hertford at least (I cannot speak for Bishops Stortford, Ware is generally served by Private Hire).
.
Bishop Stortford Has been flooded with licensed yellow plates loophole in licensing as far as I'm concerned Any new plate should have to have hybrid or Electric car
There is no enough work
NOTHING TO COMMENT
There are a large amount of uber drivers plus cars from other licensing authorities picking up from the street ranking on the station and working directly for companies based in east herts . Deregulating the plates would help solve this massive problem that is being ignored . At least the cars working in east herts would then be regulated and be professional drivers.

Uber drivers r not supposed to be in east Hertfordshire but they wait and picking jobs in bishops stortford area which is effecting our business badly.

Due to the economic climate where customers are reducing on a weekly basis now is not a good time to increase the numbers of licensed taxi drivers.

The problem with this survey and many others is perception, there are times when you can never keep up with demand, ask many drivers that sit around for hours on end earning a pittance, the only time they can make money is when demand is high yet many factors dictate earning potential, traffic, how many drops per cab load, as for perception how long is too long to wait for a cab 5,10,15 mins, some people believe 5 mins is to long , some believe they should not have to wait at all.

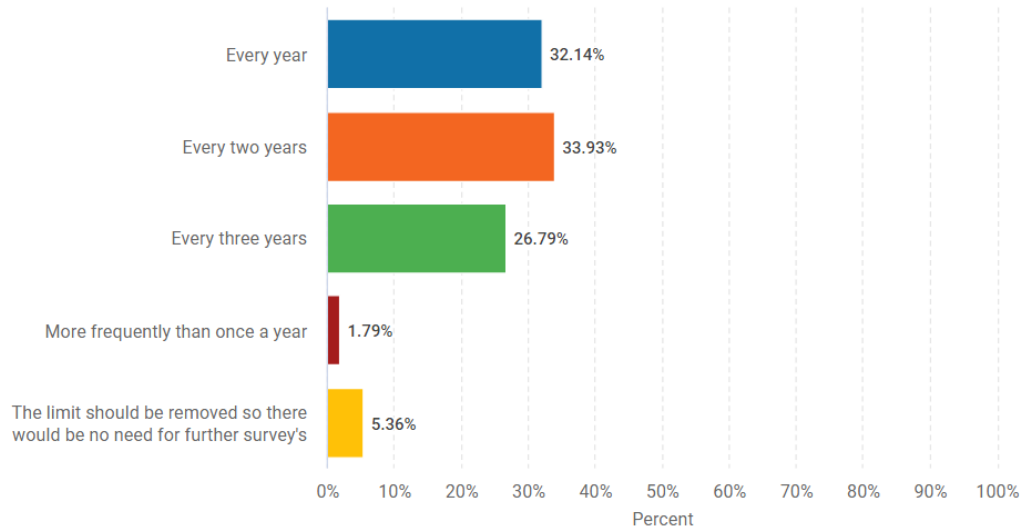
Personally I don't believe the economy is great at the moment and doesn't look like getting any better for sometime to come.

I totally agree with 10 more cars ,but the taxi operators need to stop taking Uttlesford Council licensed vehicles . We already dealing with increased numbers of Uber cars in town.

Thank you for your support.

As we don't have enough spaces on the rank to park most of the work uber takes it at night

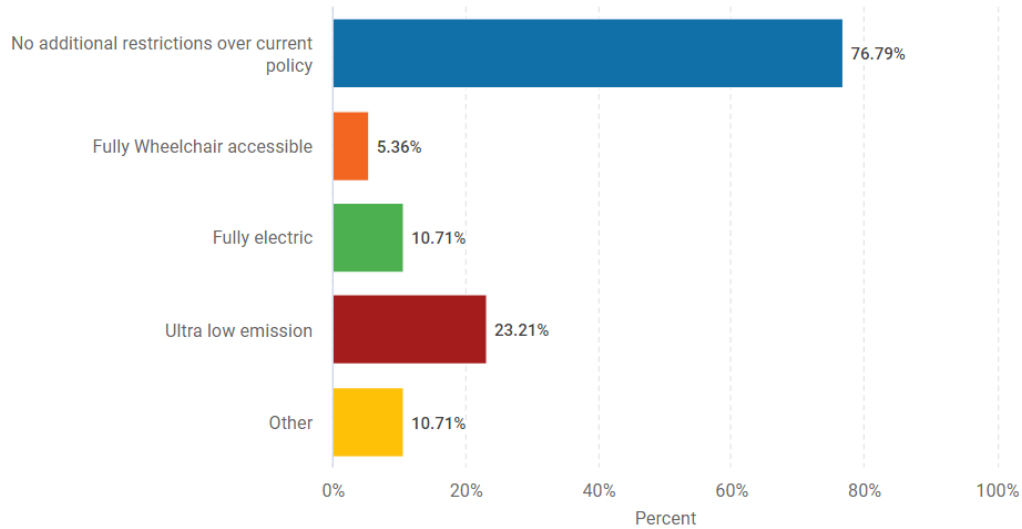
How often do you think East Herts Council should undertake an unmet demand survey? Please explain the reasons for your answer in the comments field below. One answer only.



Comments:
every 2 years would be good
Bc the customer demand always changes year to year basis
3 years or more like 5
Demand will not increase sooner than that at the moment's
The survey should take place every two years to track the demand variations over a more significant period of time.
I think 2 years time is just about right that market situation may have change.
2 years make sense
That would be great
I consider every two years to be a reasonable time frame and cost effective idea to carry out the survey
This would allow you to stay on top of retirements and drivers leaving the trade
A review every year means a better grip on numbers to ensure the right amount of Hackney Carriage are servicing the demand.
Three years is adequate
Once again due to the constant moving economic situation with in the country a regular up date needs to be maintained amongst all the drivers .
Once a year is reasonable
The demand isn't here yet
To ensure the trade is not flooded with cabs
To monitor the situation
Corrolates with the term of the licence
That's all we need every two years
2 years just to keep check on things
I think after 3years most drivers would have move on, or retire. In that case a vacuum could be created for more to fill.

Keeps things up to date more often
We don't have any business anymore because Uber took over a business
Until the level is right for the demand
I think wouldn't change match with two years
We are licensed every 3 years. So it seems apt that if you are intent on doing further surveys, then it should tie in with that time period.
Reviews of all demands should be carried out yearly
All key industry indicators should be subject to annual review.
I think all aspects of the industry should be reviewed every year
none
N/a
It's depends on the town how busy it is
Year is a good time to reflect
Don't want survey fatigue by doing it more often.
It would be better to see if demand has increased.
None
Is good for everyone to have them opinion.
I think every 2 years is ample to review the unmet demand. I believe that would be enough time to see what demands are actually required by then
Once per year will be enough. But I think some time we need to have survey more than once per year.
The future is very uncertain for taxi drivers.
Two years is resonable
I don't see the need for another survey unless the number of vehicles is increased, but as three years is the maximum, that is my choice.
Demand for Taxi Has gone down people working from home and cost of living people have changed ways of transport
Depending on how busy we are
NOTHING TO COMMENT
Because being in fully informed could help going forward.
I think 2 to 3 years
An annual review yearly needs to take place especially as the inflation rate is at 10.1 percent which has all ready counter acted our last fare rate increase .
Need to wait for economy to get better
Because the area is expanding so much, I have to be honest and I think every year survey is perfect
Depends on public demand

Do you think the type of vehicle that is allowed to apply for the additional licences should be restricted and if so how? Please explain the reasons for your answer in the comments field below. You may select more than one answer.



Comments:
we should be able to use any custom built taxi IE London taxi style euro 5 and above as its a cheaper way for operators to get disable wheel chair taxis on the road
Most of the cars these days should meet the low emission, to protect each other
just keep Policy as it is
Normal vehicles that pass the required requirements is fine as we do not need any further expense at this time. We pay out enough as it is
The policy should remain as it is.
I don't think any other restrictions should apply. Especially I'm totally against electric vehicles as a taxis. The distance they cover is totally unacceptable in our industry.
Current policy should be good enough
Hybrid
The policy is vey stringent at this time in view of cost of vehicles to purchase
None
Vehicles are already of a good standard and not every vehicle needs to be wheelchair accessible, many customers prefer an executive car .
Whilst wheelchair access is important and is a real shortage in the area, maybe 1 in 5 new applications could be wheelchair? apart from that no extra restrictions
The current policy is adequate
I need to breath clean air, time after time taxi drivers sit there on the rank s with there engines constantly running with no regard for people moving around them especially younger people
Definitely lacking in this area
I still see 09 Registered vehicles
No further restrictions
To help the environment
As independant, I cannot afford to buy any adapted vehicle,

We can't afford the new special vehicles.
Until the price of new cars come down we should stay as we are
Electric will be in the future but not yet until they can provide a car that fully selfcharges so no need to plug in and charge
The cost of newer vehicles like fully electric and other low emission version is very astronomical therefore, additional restrictions could be devastation and unaffordable.
There is enough restrictions now and makes it more costly it's bad enough now
N/a
Environment friendly
Everything is fine
You are making it very difficult to provide a service in east herts
As stated in section 2. Due to issues caused by Associated. Due to them employing additional taxis not licensed by East Herts. No additional licenses should be granted!
there should be no restrictions
N/A
none
none
Maybe the council need to look at lowering the fees and making it easier for new drivers to be Interested in the trade.
Ultra mission is more important at the money
To get into some places in london you have to have low emissions
Other restrictions will probably put off newcomers anyway.
Restrictions on type off vehicle would mean thinking out the amount of work there is. Fully Wheelchair vehicles would only help if they were restricted to only work I areas where there is a shortage. Electric vehicles will eventually be the only option over time. Just my opinion of course.
Every Year
To be honest is enough restriction as a Taxi Driver. Regards
The biggest topic that seems to be talked about all the time is pollution. All vehicles if they can't meet todays emission standards then they should not be relicenced.
That will be good to change ulez and electric car in the future for example in next two to five years. But now is still too early.
The infrastructure isn't there for electric cars plus the only electric cars with a decent range are to expensive
Currently vehicle price is too high it's not right to to put restriction
I am aware that if enough drivers select one of the options above such as wheelchair accessible or electric, we may be pushed into them being a requirement. So no restriction.
Hybrids or electric cars all the way forward
We currently only have 1 wheel chair accessible that I know of working In Bishops stortford
NOTHING TO COMMENT
As long as the car is fully within the parameters set and in good condition it should be able to be licensed.
N/a
It's very simple we all like to breath clean air sitting on the taxi ranks with drivers engines constantly running is an issue for everyone especially the younger generation.
I think things are ok as they are



The only big issue is that we went thru a pandemic ,now financial problems as you probably see better than me. Its really hard to "upgrade" to a new car at the moment and trowing myself in to a big debt at the moment is not a wise choice .

Other vehicles are not suitable especially electric not really convenient the infrastrure is not quite there yet and not enough miles fully wheelchair are expensive and too bulky we hardly get any disabled person.