

Appendix 2 – Vehicle engine Size Consultation Responses.

Written responses where the answer to Q4 was in agreement

Need to reduce emissions.
As long car is big enough for passengers I don't see any reason why a smaller engine car should be excluded.
Engines are getting more cleaner and efficient, less co2 and improved air quality. Car manufacturers are currently making smaller capacity engines.
Because some of vehicle 1.5 pean some Honda and Toyota Prius are 1.4 and 1.5
Car engines are able to output more power from smaller engines. Reading the initial statement, a pure electric vehicle is unable to be used due to this. Whilst they're probably limited in their range, technology advances will change this in the future and should be legislated for now.
I can't see any obvious purpose for the restriction. If the intent is to ensure that a private hire vehicle can carry a certain minimum amount of passengers/luggage, it's better to require that directly. As it is, the restriction rejects alternative (and possibly more environmentally-friendly) methods of meeting the same standard, e.g. via use of a powerful electric engine.
This will help to reduce emissions and air pollution by encouraging the use of smaller engined more fuel-efficient cars and electric cars.
Good for environment. Attract more employees.
Advances in engine technology mean modern engines can save fuel by having high power output from smaller CC, plus the evolving hybrid/electric car.
Rather than encouraging larger combustion engines, our need for clean air requires us to switch to cleaner vehicles (as well as reducing the number of vehicles & vehicle miles overall).
Reducing emissions.
Removal of restrictions can only be of benefit to the economy of the city, which the City Council does not often do much to support.
Smaller cars = less pollution.

Technology should be able to enable smaller engine sizes to haul the same weight as larger vehicles did before.

More smaller cars are with very low CO2 emission.

It will give the drivers more options to buy vehicles which are newer and affordable.

Written responses where the answer to Q4 was not in agreement

It must stay regulated to ensure that emissions can be monitored and maintained.

It's not clear why you want it stopping.

It isn't a clear consultation for normal members of the public.

Engines have become more efficient so the same performance can be achieved with smaller displacement. Therefore it seems sensible to remove minimum engine displacement requirements.

In the absence of such a restriction, private hire taxi drivers would then be free to make logical engine choices based, hopefully, on an economical basis.

However the logical economic choice would suggest that diesel engines would be the best solution. This would be counter-intuitive given the introduction of a clean air zone in the near future on which Birmingham City Council is shortly about to consult.

Might it be better to await the outcome of that consultation before making this decision?

Diesel engines are proven to be significantly more polluting than petrol/hybrid/fully electric vehicles. So to be consulting on engine sizes seems premature and misaligned with the overall transport strategy when the discussion should be about limiting pollution and therefore the fuel types allowable.