

DISTRICT OF SOUTH HOLLAND

PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE – CONDITIONS OF LICENCE

The following conditions shall be attached to the grant of a private hire vehicle licence, and the operator(s) shall, when making application for a licence, declare his/her intention to comply with such conditions.

1. Vehicle

- (a) The vehicle shall be a motor vehicle constructed or adapted to set up to eight passengers, other than a hackney carriage or public service vehicle and which is provided for hire with the services of a driver for the purpose of carrying passengers.
- (b) The vehicle and all its fittings and equipment shall at all times when the vehicle is in use or available for hire be kept in an efficient, safe, tidy and clean condition and all relevant statutory requirements (including in particular those contained in Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations) shall be fully complied with.
- (c) No material alteration or change in the specification, design, condition or appearance of the vehicle shall be made without the approval of the Council at any time while the licence is in force.
- (d) The vehicle shall be fitted with a 1kg or 2kg Multi-Purpose dry powder Fire Extinguisher to BS EN3 standard, a first aid kit and any other equipment considered necessary, and submit the same for examination when required. Such equipment is to be carried in a position in the vehicle and is to be readily visible and available for immediate use in an emergency. It is recommended that the best location for a fire extinguisher is in front of the passenger seat, away from passing cables and away from the passengers feet, with the carrying handle nearest to the driver (if in doubt seek professional help).
- (e) The vehicle shall NOT be fitted with a roof sign, or be of such an appearance or design so as to lead any person to believe it to be a hackney carriage.
- (f) The vehicle may display advertising but any form of advertising so displayed shall not be of such appearance or design as to lead any person to believe it to be a hackney carriage.

(NOTE: Whilst there are no specific restrictions relating to advertising on private hire vehicles, operator/drivers should not place any form of advertising on windows which may impede the driver's or passenger's visual line of sight or cause discomfort. Similarly proprietors/drivers are expected to ensure that any advertising material displayed on or in the private hire vehicle is decent, non-controversial or non-offensive to any person or organisation).

2. Licence Plates

- (a) The Council shall provide the vehicle with two plates indicating the private hire vehicle number of that vehicle, one of which should be fitted externally to the rear off-side of the vehicle and the other smaller plate should be fitted internally facing the front passenger position.
- (b) The operator or driver of the vehicle shall ensure that the plates provided are kept in such a position and manner as to allow the number thereon to be distinctly visible at all times.
- (c) The licence plates referred to shall remain the property of the Council and may be recalled within seven days of the private hire vehicle being terminated.

3. Taximeters

The operator is not required to fit a taximeter to a private hire vehicle, but any vehicle so equipped shall NOT be operated unless the taximeter has been previously tested and sealed by a

tester authorised in writing by the Council and a certificate of compliance/vehicle test report lodged with the Council.

4. Fares

- (a) The operator may charge whatever fare has been agreed between him/herself and the hirer before the commencement of the journey. However he/she shall inform the Council of the basic scale of fares intended to be charged and give the Council at least one calendar month's notice of any changes proposed thereto.
- (b) The operator shall display visibly inside the vehicle a current list of his/her basic scale of charges for inspection by passengers.

- 5. (a) The operator or driver shall produce when required, the vehicle for inspection, together with the vehicle registration document, certificate of insurance, and certificate of compliance/vehicle test report.
- (b) An authorised officer of the Council or any Police Constable shall have power at all reasonable times to inspect any private hire vehicle licensed by the Council, for the purpose of ascertaining its fitness. A vehicle licence may be suspended if the officer or constable is not satisfied with the fitness of the licensed vehicle.

6. Operation of the Vehicle

- (a) The operator shall be in direct control of the day to day running of the vehicle and shall make that vehicle available for hire at all reasonable hours.
- (b) No private hire vehicle shall wait on stands appointed for hackney carriages, nor proceed along the highway for the purposes of plying for hire.

7. Vehicle Drivers' Licences

If the operator permits or employs any other person to drive the vehicle as a private hire vehicle, he/she shall before that person commences to drive the vehicle cause the driver to deliver to him/her his/her private hire driver's licence for retention until such time as the driver ceases to be permitted or employed to drive the vehicle or any other vehicle belonging to the operator.

8. Change of Address

The proprietor shall notify the Council in writing of any change of his/her address during the period of the licence, within seven days of such change taking place.

9. Convictions

The proprietor shall, within seven days, disclose to the Council details in writing of any conviction(s) imposed on him (or, if the proprietor is a company or partnership, on any of the directors or partners).

10. Vehicle Licence

- (a) The operator shall not assign or in any way part with the benefit of the vehicle licence without prior written consent of the Council.
- (b) The operator shall at all times operate the vehicle in compliance with the terms of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, and failure so to do may result in the vehicle licence being suspended or revoked.