PRIVATE HIRE AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVER LICENCE CONDITIONS

1. Conduct of Driver

(a) The driver shall not, without the express consent of the hirer, play any radio or any sound reproducing equipment in the vehicle other than for the purposes of sending or receiving messages in connection with the operation of the vehicle;
(b) The driver shall not drink or eat in the vehicle whilst it is being let for hire;
(c) The driver shall not smoke in the vehicle without the express consent of the hirer;
(d) The driver shall not use a cellular telephone for the purpose of receiving bookings for the hackney carriage. A cellular telephone should not be used unless the vehicle is stationary;
(e) The driver shall not at any time use or permit to be used in the vehicle a radio scanner or citizen band radio;
(f) The driver shall notify the Council of any change of address within 7 days of the change;
(g) The driver shall notify the Council of any conviction, caution, Police warning or reprimand, fixed penalty and anti social behaviour order as soon as possible, and in any case within seven days. The driver shall also notify the Council within seven days if they are on Police bail pending the outcome of an investigation or if any criminal proceedings have been instigated against them in a Court

2. Medical Fitness

The driver shall notify the Council in writing of any medical condition which arises after the issue of the licence and may effect his ability to drive safely.

3. Proprietors Records

The driver shall supply to the proprietor of the hackney carriage which he/she drives a copy of his hackney carriage driver's licence and must notify the proprietor of any change within 14 days of such change.

4. Documents

The driver of the vehicle shall at the request of an authorised officer produce for inspection:
(a) the current vehicle insurance certificate;
(b) his/her hackney carriage driving licence and/or DVLA driving licence.

5. Loss/Return of badge or licence

The driver shall:-
(a) Report the loss of his/her badge or licence to the Council in writing as soon as he becomes aware of the loss. A duplicate will be issued upon payment of a fee;
(b) Return his/her licence and badge to the Council immediately in the event of the surrender, suspension or revocation of the licence.

6. Display of Advertising Material

The following advertising may be displayed in or from a hackney carriage vehicle with prior consent of the Council:-

(a) A sign measuring no greater than 24" (60cm) x 3"(7.5cm) displaying the name and telephone number of the licensed operator to be displayed in the rear window of the vehicle in such a manner so as not to obscure the drivers view; or

(b) A sign measuring no greater than 18" (45cm) x 24"(60cm) of such design as approved by the Council displaying the name and telephone number of the company of the Licensed Operator. The sign to be securely affixed to both front doors of the vehicle;

(c) Advertising material displayed on or from the front doors or passenger doors of the vehicle or on the interior tip up seats or in the rear window which conforms to the criteria below:-

  (i) Any advertisement displayed on or from the interior tip up seats of a Hackney Carriage must be encapsulated in clear non-flammable plastic and be firmly affixed,

  (ii) An advertisement displayed on the inside or outside of the vehicle must be of such form so as not to become easily soiled or detached,

  (iii) An advertisement displayed in the rear window shall not obscure the drivers view and shall be affixed by means of a clear plastic film known as Contra Vision,

  (iv) Any material and adhesive used in the manufacture of and for the purpose of affixing any advertisement to a Hackney Carriage must be non-flammable.

Any advertisement considered unsuitable or offensive shall be removed immediately on the instruction of an authorised officer of the Council.

7. Illuminated Identification Signs

The driver shall ensure that the illuminated box containing the word "CAB" and the licence number issued to the vehicle is affixed to the nearside partition window and wired to the ignition so as to remain illuminated at all times whilst the vehicle is in motion.

8. Wheelchair Accessibility

(a) The driver shall ensure that where a hackney carriage vehicle is wheelchair accessible all parts are maintained in good working order;

(b) The driver of a hackney carriage shall, at all times, carry in the boot of the vehicle two aluminium wheelchair ramps (with non slip surface) and detachable wheelchair restraining strap, if applicable;

(c) The driver of a hackney carriage vehicle shall use the ramps and wheelchair restraining equipment in the correct way at all times when dealing with a wheelchair bound person. He/she must take reasonable precautions, at all times, to ensure the safety of persons conveyed in or alighting from the vehicle when using the wheelchair ramps;

(d) The driver shall ensure that following the use of such equipment the ramps are returned to the boot and stored securely and the restraining equipment is returned to its original position.

9. Safety Equipment

The driver of the vehicle must ensure that there shall be provided and maintained in the vehicle at all times;

(a) A portable type fire extinguisher which conforms to British Standard 5423 of the following type:-
   (i) a BCF (green halon type) extinguisher minimum capacity 1kg; or
   (ii) a dry powder 34B rated extinguisher minimum capacity 1kg; or
   (iii) an AFFF foam 21B rated extinguisher minimum capacity 0.9 litres.

   The extinguisher should be mounted on brackets in a convenient position in the drivers compartment. The hackney carriage vehicle licence number must be marked on the extinguisher.

(b) A suitable first aid kit containing the following items:-
   (i) six individually wrapped adhesive dressings;
   (ii) one medium sized unmedicated dressing approximately 100mm by 80mm (eg standard dressing No.8 or No.13 BPC);
   (iii) one triangular bandage sterile;
   (iv) six safety pins; and
   (v) pair of protective/surgical gloves.

   Such equipment is to be carried in such a position in the vehicle as to be readily visible and available for immediate use by a qualified person or volunteer in an emergency provided that if the design of the vehicle is such that a first aid kit cannot be carried in a position where it is easily visible a sign shall be displayed on the vehicle dashboard indicating the position of the kit. The hackney carriage vehicle licence number must be marked on the first aid kit.

10. Animals

(a) The driver shall not convey in the vehicle any animal belonging to himself or the proprietor or operator of the vehicle;

(b) The driver may carry any animal belonging to a passenger at his own discretion but only in the rear seating area of the vehicle and he shall ensure where necessary that such animals are suitably contained so as not to present a nuisance or hazard to the occupants of the vehicle;

(c) Notwithstanding anything in (b) a blind or otherwise disabled passenger shall be entitled as of right to be accompanied by a guide dog in the vehicle

unless the driver has been granted exemption from the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

11. Inspection and testing

The driver shall:-

(a) upon request from the Council, present the vehicle and any taximeter affixed to it for inspection and testing on behalf of the Council at the Council's approved vehicle testing station;

(b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that the vehicle is presented for testing to the Council's approved testing station on the date and time requested by the Council. Should it fail to be so presented a charge may be levied against the proprietor unless 24 hours clear notice of cancellation has been received by the Licensing Office from the proprietor or driver.

12. Inspection by authorised officer

(a) The driver of the vehicle shall at reasonable times permit an authorised officer or police constable in uniform to inspect the vehicle or any taximeter affixed to it for the purpose of ascertaining its fitness;

(b) Should the authorised officer or police constable not be satisfied as to the fitness of the vehicle or its taximeter the proprietor or driver shall make the vehicle available for further inspection and testing at such reasonable time and place as is specified by notice in writing given by the authorised officer or police constable;

(c) The driver shall comply with any notice given by an authorised officer or police constable suspending the vehicle licence until such time as he is satisfied as to its fitness or the fitness of any taximeter affixed to it.

13. Written Receipt

The driver shall if required by the hirer of the vehicle provide a written receipt for the fare paid.

14. Payment by Cheque

A licence in respect of which the fee has been paid either in part or in full by cheque shall be of no effect in the event of that cheque being subsequently dishonoured.

Failure to comply with any of the above conditions may result in the Hackney Carriage Driver's licence issued being suspended or revoked or in an application to renew the licence being refused.
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

The Council reserves the right to waive any or all of these Conditions.