

## **Hackney Carriage Conditions**

### **1. Identification Plates and Roof Signs**

1.1	The Proprietor shall ensure that a Roof Sign, of a type approved by the Council, shall be fixed to the vehicle and shall be lit up at all times when the vehicle is in service and is available for hire.
1.2	The fare card where issued by the Council shall at all times be kept and maintained inside the vehicle.
1.3	The external identification plate issued by the Council shall at all times be fixed to the outside rear of the hackney carriage by the proprietor to the place provided by the manufacturer or by means of a Council approved fixing kit. On the suspension of a vehicle licence and where a "Licence Expired" plate has been fitted to the vehicle that plate may only be removed by an Authorised Officer of the Council. The proprietor of the vehicle shall ensure the identification plates are maintained and kept in such a condition that the information contained on the plate is clearly visible to public view at all times. The identification plate remains the property of the Council and must be returned to the Council within 7 days of expiry of the vehicles licence if not renewed. Plates are not transferable except on application.
1.4	Hackney carriages shall display a replica hackney carriage Licence plate issued by the Council, affixed to the inside of the vehicle, in the prescribed manner, so that it can be clearly seen by fare paying passengers and a Council tactile plate on the inside of the rear nearside passenger door..
1.5	The Council will not licence a vehicle for hire & reward which is licensed by another Licensing Authority or allow or permit a hackney carriage identification plate issued by another Licensing Authority to be displayed upon the vehicle.

### **2. General Vehicle**

2.1	<p>The age limit for purpose-built vehicles is 12 years. Where vehicles are of "exceptional condition" and continue to be licensed over the Council's age limit, the vehicle will be subject to 6 monthly compliance tests.</p> <p>The age limit for multi-purpose vehicles is ten years. Vehicles to be tested every six months from five years of age in line with best practice guidance.</p>
2.2	All hackney carriages must be fitted with manufacturers approved tyres of the same size and type including the spare wheel.
2.3	The proprietor of the taxi shall ensure that no non-standard unauthorised alterations or modifications are carried out to the vehicle or to the engine.
2.4	The proprietor of the taxi shall ensure that the exterior colour of the taxi is one of the manufacturer's colours. Vehicles which are of a colour other than that of the manufacturer must be approved by the Council.

### **3. Condition of Vehicle**

3.1	The proprietor shall ensure that the hackney carriage shall be maintained in a sound mechanical, electrical and structural condition at all times and be capable of satisfying the Council's mechanical, electrical and structural inspection at any time during the continuance of the vehicles licence. The interior and exterior of the hackney carriage shall be maintained in a clean, safe condition by the proprietor. The proprietor shall not allow the mechanical and structural specification of the vehicle to be varied without the consent of the Authorised Officer of the Council.
3.2	Any vehicle submitted for licence which is fitted with tinted windows must have windows which are factory fitted options at the time of the manufacture of the vehicle; and
3.2.1	The vehicle shall be constructed and/or designed so as to enable passengers to be seen in the vehicle from any direction when observed from outside of the vehicle; and
3.2.2	Glass shall have a minimum light transmittance of 75% for the front windscreen, 70% for the front side windows and 34% for all other vehicle window glass
<b>4.</b>	<b>Fire Extinguisher and First Aid Kit</b>
4.1	A fire extinguisher which is fit for use and which meets the specifications listed in the Council's Inspection Standards for Licensed Vehicle Testing and Compliance Standards, must be carried on the vehicle at all times and in such a position as to be readily available in an emergency.
4.2	A first aid kit which is fit for use and which meets the specifications listed in the Council's Inspection Standards for Licensed Vehicle Testing and Compliance Standards must be carried on the vehicle at all times
<b>5.</b>	<b>Child Safety Seats</b>
5.1	The Vehicle Proprietor in conjunction with the Operator and the Driver, shall provide and make available to any customer so requesting, an approved infant or booster seat or the provision of extra equipment to facilitate the safe conveyance of children during bookings or from Taxi Ranks. (The number of seats held by the company shall be determined by the Operator and the Vehicle Proprietor in accordance with an assessment of supply and demand). All seats provided shall conform to current National Standards
5.2	The Vehicle Proprietor in conjunction with the company and/or the Driver shall ensure that any infant seat used during a hackney carriage journey shall be suitable for the child's weight and size and will be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
5.3	Based upon supply and demand, the Proprietor in conjunction with the Operator and Driver shall decide, whether or not the child safety seats provided by them are kept at the company base, and made available to drivers as and when required, or kept upon selected licensed vehicles or both.

<b>6.</b>	<b>Signage</b>
6.1	The following signs and notices will be displayed on licensed hackney carriages during the currency of the Licence:-
6.1.1	Notices issued from time to time by Telford & Wrekin Council for the information of the travelling public.
6.1.2	A sign stating 'Seat Belt Regulations – Seat Belts must be worn'.
6.1.3	A sign bearing the words 'First Aid Kit Carried' fixed to the rear body work of the vehicle.
6.1.4	A sign issued by the council inside the rear of the vehicle regarding No Smoking.
6.1.5	A sign (the nationally recognised symbol) confirming that the taxi is wheelchair accessible and caters for the needs of the disabled.
6.1.6	A certificate (if applicable) confirming that the driver named on such certificate is exempt on medical grounds from carrying wheelchair bound passengers.
6.1.7	A certificate, if applicable, confirming that the driver is exempt on medical grounds from carrying approved Guide Hearing and other Assistance Dogs.
6.1.8	A sign informing passengers how to complain.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Advertisements</b>
7.1	Commercial advertisements may be displayed on the exterior of the front doors of licensed vehicles (although advertising may be considered on other areas) but in any case all advertising must comply with the following requirements;
7.1.1	The Council's written permission is required before the display of any advertisement,
7.1.2	The proprietor shall not display any sign, notice or advert on the vehicle which contains national, political, racial, cultural, sexual or potentially offensive language or symbols, flags or emblems.”
7.1.3	No advertisement shall relate to or advertise alcohol or tobacco or be of a political nature.
7.1.4	A sign shall not display anything other than the business name and/or trading name of the Operator, telephone or text number, website or app address of the operator and which may be displayed only on the vehicle's front driver and/or passenger doors.
7.1.5	No sign shall refer to any firm, radio circuit or association or telephone number which is outside the Telford & Wrekin Council area;
7.1.6	No such sign shall be illuminated.
<b>8.</b>	<b>Council Notices</b>

8.1	The proprietor when asked by the Council shall display any sign or notices so that they may be clearly seen by passengers.
<b>9.</b>	<b>Taximeters</b>
9.1	The proprietor shall fit the vehicle with an automatic tariff changing taximeter approved by the Council and for it to be located within the vehicle in accordance with the reasonable instructions of an Authorised Officer of the Council.
9.2	The proprietor shall ensure that any meter fitted shall be technically capable of accepting any restrictions or fare scales that the council wishes to programme into that meter.
9.3	The proprietor shall maintain the meter in a sound electrical and mechanical condition at all times.
9.4	Any hackney carriage vehicle so fitted with a meter must be equipped with the standard size tyres as approved by the manufacturer of the vehicle. Retro-fitted low profile tyres which will affect the performance and accuracy of a meter are not acceptable if fitted after the meter has been tested and sealed. Any such tyres of a low profile type must be fitted before the meter is tested. Any contravention of this condition will result in the immediate suspension of a hackney carriage licence.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Fare Tables</b>
10.1	The proprietor shall ensure that a copy of the current fare table supplied by the Council is exhibited inside the vehicle at all times in the location provided by the manufacturers of the vehicle or in accordance with the reasonable instructions of an Authorised Officer of the Council.
<b>11.</b>	<b>Insurance</b>
11.1	During the currency of the vehicle licence, the Proprietor shall keep in force, in relation to the use of the vehicle as a hackney carriage vehicle, a policy for hire and reward insurance and security complying with the provisions of Section 145 of Part VI Road Traffic Act 1988 which covers third party liability both in respect of physical injury or death AND in respect of damage to personal belongings. The certificate of insurance shall be produced to an Authorised Officer of the Council for inspection whenever required.
11.2	If the Proprietor fails to produce a certificate of insurance cover on request he shall produce it forthwith, or within 7 clear days of the request to any Authorised Officer of the Council. Failure to comply with these provisions shall result in automatic suspension of the vehicle licence (and may lead to the ultimate revocation of the Licence, if a certificate is unable to be produced which confirmed that insurance cover was in place at the date of the original request).
<b>12.</b>	<b>Disclosure and Barring Service Checks, Conviction and Non Conviction Notification</b>

12.1	The Licence holder shall notify the Council in writing within 48 hours of an arrest and release, charge or conviction of any criminal offence, and any motoring offence recorded against him/her by any Authority. . All licence holders will be subject to a Basic Criminal Record Disclosure check annually.
<b>13.</b>	<b>Equipment</b>
13.1	The proprietor shall ensure that all Hackney carriages must carry at all times a warning triangle and an appropriate set of vehicle spares (e.g. spare bulbs etc).
13.2	The appropriate ramps and associated equipment for loading wheelchairs into the vehicle in the approved manner must be carried and used at all times.
13.3	Where CCTV is installed in the vehicle, it must comply with the Council's CCTV policy in licensed vehicles and access to it must be made readily available to an authorised officer.
<b>N.B.</b>	<b>Additional Notes</b>
1.	This list of conditions should be read in conjunction with Telford & Wrekin Council's Hackney carriage and Private Hire Licencing Policy
2.	Any requirements of legislation which effect the operations being carried out under the terms of this licence shall be regarded as if they are conditions of this licence. Wherever there appears in the licence conditions or policy, a summary of any statutory provision you are advised that such summary is not exhaustive. If you are in any doubt about any information contained in this document please contact the Licensing Service for advice on 01952 381818, email <a href="mailto:licensing@telford.gov.uk">licensing@telford.gov.uk</a>