

CONDITIONS ATTACHING TO PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE

(by virtue of section 51(2) of the local Government
(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976)

In these conditions unless the subject or context otherwise requires "the Authority" means the City of Newcastle upon Tyne, "Driver" means a person holding and acting in accordance with Private Hire Driver's Licence issued by the Authority and "Vehicle" means a Private Hire Vehicle licences by the Authority, "the Act" means the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

Conduct of Driver

1. The Driver shall:

- a) at all times when a vehicle is being driven for hire, be clean and respectable in his dress and person and conduct himself in an orderly manner with civility and propriety towards every person seeking to hire, or hiring or being conveyed in such vehicle and to any authorised officer of the Authority.
- b) comply with every reasonable requirements of any person hiring or being conveyed in such vehicle,
- c) convey a reasonable quantity of language,
- d) afford reasonable assistance in removing such luggage to or from the entrance of any building, station or place at which he may take up or set down
- e) not importune any person to hire such vehicle and shall not make use of the services of any other person for the purposes of such importuning.
- f) applicants shall undertake to use their licences either in full time employment or as other major source of income, subject to the committee's discretion.

Licence Plate

2. The driver shall not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer the Licence Plate from public view or to be defaced that any figure or material particular is illegible.

Taximeter

3. Where the vehicle is equipped with a taximeter and where such meter is to be used to record the fare for hiring, the driver shall:-

- a) ensure, during the hiring, that the meter dial is plainly visible and legible to the hirer,

- b) cause the meter dial to be kept properly illuminated throughout the hiring,
- c) immediately report to the Authority any failure of the meter,
- d) not tamper with or permit any person to tamper with the meter with which the vehicle is provided, with the fittings thereof or with the seals affixed thereto,
- e) the driver shall ensure that the Table of fares is at all times clearly visible to the hirer of the vehicle and shall not wilfully or negligently cause the Table to be concealed or defaced so that any particular is illegible,
- f) the driver shall ensure that the taximeter and Table of fares are not used on any hiring if the taximeter has failed or does not comply with this condition.

Table of Fares

- 4. The driver of a private hire vehicle shall not require for such hiring a fare greater than that previously agreed. If the vehicle is fitted with a taximeter and there has been no previous agreement as to the fare, that which is shown on the taximeter shall be charged.

Passengers

- 5. The driver shall not convey or permit to be conveyed in a private hire vehicle, a greater number of persons than the number of persons specified on the licence plate affixed to the rear of the vehicle.

Prompt Attendance

- 6. The driver who has agreed to be or has been hired to be in attendance with a vehicle at an appointed time and place, shall, unless delayed or prevented by some sufficient cause, punctually attend with such vehicle at the appointed time and place.

Lost Property

- 7.
 - a) The driver shall immediately after the termination of any hiring of a private hire vehicle or as soon practicable thereafter carefully search the vehicle for any property which may have been accidentally left therein.
 - b) The driver shall, if any property is accidentally left in his vehicle by any person who may have been conveyed in that vehicle, take it forthwith or within twenty four hours, to the Lost Property Office, Market Street Police Station, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Written Receipts

- 8. The driver shall, if required by the hirer of a private hire vehicle, provide him with a written receipt for the fare paid.

Identity Card and Licence

9.
 - a) All drivers shall wear the Private Hire Identity Card supplied by the Authority when on duty, the Identity Card to be worn in such a manner as to be clearly displayed.
 - b) Every driver shall, within 14 days of its expiry, suspension, revocation or refusal to renew his licence by the Authority, return his driver's Identity Card to the Licensing Office.
 - c) The driver shall report the loss of the Licence or Identity Card as soon as such loss becomes known.
 - d) A driver who wishes to make an application for the renewal of a licence shall attend the Licensing Office to have a photographic image taken to be used for an identification badge. At that time an application shall be submitted with a current driver's licence and the appropriate fee. An application for the renewal of a licence must be completed on or before the date of its expiry. Applications for renewal from persons over 60 years of age shall be accompanied by a Medical Certificate in a form specified. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
 - e) The Private Hire Driver's Licence shall expire twelve months from the date of issue.
 - f) The driver shall, before commencing employment, deposit his Private Hire Driver's Licence with the Operator for retention by him until such time as the driver ceases to drive for that operator.

Change of Address

10. The driver shall notify the authority in writing of any change of his address during the period of the Licence within seven days of such change taking place.

Guide dogs

11. At the request of the hirer, the driver shall convey any hearing, guide or assistance dog(s) accompanying a disabled person. The charge for such journey shall be in accordance with the Private Hire Operator's table of fares, as deposited with the council.

The Licensing Authority may exempt a licensed driver from the requirement to carry hearing, guide and assistance dogs accompanying disabled people, if that driver has a severe medical condition which is aggravated by contact with dogs, an allergic reaction to dogs, or an acute phobia of dogs.

Should you wish to apply for an exemption than you should contact the Licensing Officer.