

Hackney Carriage (Taxi) Conditions

These conditions are made under Section 47(1) of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, by East Hampshire District Council in respect of hackney carriage vehicles for hire in the Council area of East Hampshire. They are in addition to the Hackney Carriage Byelaws.

1. Interpretation

In these conditions:- “The Act” means Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976; “the council” means East Hampshire District Council; “hackney carriage” has the same meaning as in the Town Police Clauses Act 1847; “proprietor” means owner of hackney carriage and includes part owner; “the vehicle” means the hackney carriage; “authorised officer” means any officer of the council authorised in writing by the council for the purpose of these conditions; “Byelaws” mean those in respect of Hackney Carriages made by East Hampshire District Council under section 68 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847.

The licence holder must make himself familiar with the conditions and apply them at all times and upon request make them known to any hirer.

2. Conditions relating to specification of Hackney Carriage Vehicles:

- (a) The vehicle must at all times comply with the council’s specification currently in force.
- (b) No material alteration or change in the specification, design, condition, mechanical operation or appearance of the vehicle shall be made without the approval of the Council at any time while the licence is in force.
- (c) No advertising is permitted in or on the vehicle without the written authority of the council, unless it complies with the advertising as detailed in the Council’s Policy.
- (d) The vehicle must be fitted with a calendar controlled taximeter approved by the Council, and that meter shall be maintained in a sound mechanical condition at all times. The taximeter shall be set for the current tariff agreed by the Council.
- (e) The vehicle must carry a roof sign, capable of illumination, which must conform to a specification approved and adopted by the Council (unless the vehicle is of the purpose built type). The roof sign shall be illuminated when the vehicle is plying for hire.

3. Provisions regulating how Hackney Carriage Vehicles are to be furnished, provided and maintained.

The proprietor shall:

- (a) keep the interior and exterior vehicle in a clean and tidy condition at all times.

- (b) ensure the vehicle is serviced and maintained in accordance with the manufacturers instructions.
- (c) present the vehicle for mechanical examination to the satisfaction of the council.
- (d) provide a minimum 1 kilo powder type fire extinguisher with gauge or a 1 litre AFFF with gauge, or any other form of fire extinguisher required in writing by an Authorised Officer of the Council. It must conform to a recognised standard such as European Standard EN3 or British Standard 5423 and be carried in the vehicle at all times. It must be readily accessible and maintained in good working order. The licence plate number of the vehicle must be painted along the body of the extinguisher.
- (e) provide a first aid kit must be carried within the interior of the vehicle and readily available to passengers on request. The licence plate number of the vehicle must be painted on the body of the kit. The first aid kit must contain comply with the British Standard BS 8599-2 and hold suitable content for the number of passengers. The first-aid kit must be maintained in full and proper order with items replaced before expiry.
- (f) provide a no-smoking sign (international no-smoking symbol; no smaller than 70mm in diameter) must be displayed inside the vehicle.
- (g) provide sufficient means by which any person in the vehicle may communicate with the driver.
- (h) ensure the vehicle is equipped with an indexed street map of the licence area, marked with the vehicle's registration number and licence identification number.
- (i) clearly display a tariff card, where it can be seen by any passenger, giving the tariff, not exceeding the charges permitted by the Council in its table of fares, applied by the proprietor through whom the vehicle is operated.

4. Conditions regulating the provision and display of Hackney Carriage Identification Plate

- (a) The identification plate to be provided by the Council bearing the number of the licence granted in respect of the vehicle shall be securely, permanently fixed, to the satisfaction of the Council, to the outside of the off-side rear of the vehicle in such position that it shall be clearly visible from the rear of the vehicle and shall be not less than 300 mm nor more than 766 mm to the bottom edge of the plate from the ground when the vehicle is fully laden, and shall not be wilfully or negligently concealed from public view while the vehicle is being used.
- (b) The plate remains the property of the Council. The plate must remain attached to the vehicle at all times whilst the vehicle is licensed. In the event of loss or damage rendering such plate unserviceable the proprietor shall make immediate application for a replacement for which a fee is payable.
- (c) Two additional identification notices provided by the Council must be displayed - in the front screen of the vehicle above the tax disc and on the nearside rear passenger window or such other position approved in writing by an authorised officer. The notices are to be enclosed in the holder provided by the Council or other fixing as approved in writing by an authorised officer.
- (d) Where a the proprietor sells a licensed vehicle to another party, the proprietor shall submit, in writing, details of the new owner and will surrender the private hire vehicle licence plate to the Council within 48 hours.
- (e) No vehicle will be granted a licence if it is licensed in another district.

The licence holder shall:

- (f) notify the Council in writing within seven days any change of address.
- (g) produce for the council within seven days of any change of insurer a copy of the relevant insurance cover note or certificate.
- (h) within seven days inform the council in writing details of any motoring or criminal convictions or cautions imposed on him (or if the licence holder is a company or partnership, on any of the directors or partners).
- (i) notify the council in writing of the names, addresses and licence numbers of drivers of his vehicle.

5. Conditions regulating the conduct of the proprietors of Hackney Carriages

The proprietor of a Hackney Carriage shall:

- (a) behave in a civil and orderly manner and shall take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of persons conveyed in or entering or alighting from the vehicle
- (b) who has agreed to provide a driver and a vehicle at an appointed time and place, shall, unless delayed or prevented by some sufficient cause, provide punctually such driver and vehicle at such appointed time and place:
- (c) not convey or permit to be conveyed in such vehicle any greater number of persons than the number of persons specified on the plate attached to the outside of the vehicle.
- (d) display any printed or other matter by way of advertisement either inside or outside the vehicle except with the consent of the Council.
- (e) Every pre-booked contract for the hire of a Hackney Carriage licensed by the Council shall be deemed to be made with the proprietor who accepted the booking for that vehicle whether or not he himself provided the vehicle.
- (f) Where a pre-booked journey is subcontracted, the proprietor originally receiving the booking must inform the customer with whom the contract is made of the name of the proprietor to whom the booking has been sub-contracted.