

HACKNEY CARRIAGE (VEHICLE) LICENCES

Town Police Clauses Act 1847

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

This document contains the policy, byelaws, conditions and legislation relating to your hackney carriage (vehicle) licence. The legislation refers to hackney carriage licences, but as these are often referred to as hackney carriage vehicle licences, for the avoidance of doubt the term “hackney carriage (vehicle)” will be used throughout this policy.

As hackney carriage (vehicle) licences can be held by limited companies and partnerships as well as individuals, this policy must be read to give effect to that. Any reference to a “person”, “you”, “licensee” or “proprietor” is taken to mean the proprietor of the hackney carriage.

The Council has the power to make byelaws relating to hackney carriages under the legislation, and it has done so.

There is also a power to attach conditions to hackney carriage (vehicle) licences, and the Council has standard conditions which attach to these licences. These are contained within this document.

There is also a list of the main law and byelaws that apply to hackney carriage proprietors.

Introduction

- 5.1 The purpose of licensing hackney carriage vehicles is to protect the public, including passengers and others who may otherwise be placed at risk from unlicensed and potentially dangerous vehicles.
- 5.2 It is a privilege to hold a hackney carriage vehicle licence and licensees have responsibilities to their drivers, passengers and customers, other road users and the public generally. The council has been satisfied that when you applied for your licence vehicle was suitable and safe for use as a hackney carriage and that you were a safe and suitable person to have that licence granted (please see section 3 for the Councils’ Previous Convictions Policy). In assessing that, the Council took into account the type of the vehicle, the condition of the vehicle and your entire character and behaviour.
- 5.3 As a vehicle proprietor this assessment of your character not only includes times when you are working within the hackney carriage trade, but it all other times as well. This can include your use of social media as well as other forms of communication. The requirement to satisfy the

council that you are a safe and suitable person continues throughout the duration of the licence. If at any time the standard of the vehicle or your behaviour falls below the standards expected for new applications, the council will consider taking action against that licence. This could be suspension, revocation or refusal to renew that licence. In relation to your personal actions, it is no defence to argue that your actions took place when you were not working within the hackney carriage trade. You should appreciate that under the Previous Convictions Policy, if the unacceptable or criminal behaviour took place whilst you were working within the hackney carriage trade, that will be viewed as an aggravating feature by the Council.

- 5.4 In many cases a hackney carriage is the first vehicle that a visitor to the area will encounter following arrival at an airport, railway station or bus station. As a consequence, the appearance of hackney carriages can affect a person for their entire visit. Hackney carriage proprietors should be aware of this and ensure that their vehicle is maintained to the highest standard at all times.
- 5.5 Please note, this section reminds you of some of the important legal requirements with which you must comply. This is not a comprehensive list. You should familiarise yourself with the Town Police Clauses Act 1847, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and all other relevant legislation.
- 5.6 The Council has decided to attach conditions to Hackney Carriage Licences that it considers reasonably necessary under the powers contained in section 47(1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. The conditions are in addition to the statutory requirements of the legislation. Section 47(3) of the 1976 Act gives the right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court to any person aggrieved by any of the conditions attached to their licence within twenty-one days of receipt of the licence.
- 5.7 You must understand and comply with the legal requirements relating to the Hackney Carriage licensed in your name, a limited company in which you are a director or secretary, or in joint names when you are one of the named individuals. Failure to comply with the requirements may result in your hackney carriage vehicle licence being suspended or revoked.
- 5.8 The Council office for hackney carriage and private hire licensing purposes is The Licensing Section, **INSERT ADDRESS AND CONTACT DETAILS.**
- 5.9 This is the address to which all applications, notices, reports of incidents and any other communications with the Council must be sent.

SANCTIONS AGAINST THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE LICENCE.

- 5.10 Where a proprietor breaches any Legislation, Byelaw or Condition of the licence, they may be referred to the Regulatory Sub-Committee.
- 5.11 The Council also runs its own Penalty Points Scheme as a method of enforcing the requirements for hackney carriage and private hire licensees (see section 2). Each year (running from 1st April to 31st March) a maximum of 12 Council penalty points can be accrued on a hackney carriage vehicle licence. Any proprietor who accrues 12 or more points will be brought before the Regulatory Sub-Committee where their safety and suitability to retain a hackney carriage vehicle licence will be considered.
- 5.12 Whenever, and in what circumstances a proprietor is brought before the Regulatory Sub-Committee, the Sub-Committee will decide each case on its merits, after hearing the facts.
- 5.13 The Sub-Committee may also suspend or revoke the hackney carriage vehicle licence (see below) or impose further penalty points.

Power to take action against a hackney carriage vehicle licence

- 5.14 Under section 60 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Council may suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a hackney carriage vehicle licence on the following grounds:
- a) that the hackney carriage vehicle is unfit for use as a hackney carriage;
 - b) any offence under, or non-compliance with, the provisions of the Act of 1847 or of this Part of this Act by the operator or driver; or
 - c) any other reasonable cause.
- 5.15 An authorised officer of the Council, an authorised officer of another Council where there is a reciprocal arrangement, or a police constable can immediately suspend a hackney carriage vehicle licence under S68 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 on the grounds of
- a) the vehicle is unfit
 - b) the taximeter is inaccurate
- 5.16 Failure to comply with any hackney carriage legislation (including byelaws), or other road traffic legislation is an offence and you may be liable to prosecution. In addition (irrespective of whether you were prosecuted or convicted of the offence(s)), the Council may take action

against your licence which could lead to your hackney carriage vehicle licence being suspended, revoked or the renewal refused.

- 5.17 Failure to comply with the Council's conditions may result in your Hackney Carriage Licence being suspended, revoked or the renewal refused.
- 5.18 If any information given by you on the application form for this licence proves to be false, or you fail to disclose any relevant information on your application form, the licence may be revoked, and you may also be prosecuted under s57(3) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.
- 5.19 The hackney carriage vehicle licence remains the property of the Council.
- 5.20 In the event that you lose your proprietors licence, hackney carriage proprietors (vehicle) licence plates or additional signage, or if they are damaged or defaced, you must get a replacement licence or plates on payment of a fee determined by the Council, and you cannot use the hackney carriage until such replacements are obtained and fitted.
- 5.21 It must be understood that a decision to grant a hackney carriage vehicle licence is made on the basis of the condition and suitability of the vehicle and the suitability of the proprietor(s) on the particular facts of the case on the day of the decision. That suitability can be lost at any time in the future and you must ensure that the condition of your vehicle and your behaviour remains of the highest standard to protect your vehicle licence and therefore your livelihood.

Policy

GENERAL

Applicants

- 5.22 Hackney carriage vehicle licences can be held by individuals, limited liability partnerships (LLP), conventional partnerships (two or more people in business together) or limited companies. Usually the vehicle must be registered to one of those, but there will be occasions where the vehicle is leased or hired. In all cases the applicant(s) must demonstrate that they have ownership of the vehicle, a financial interest in the vehicle or permission to use the vehicle on an extended basis (in the case of a lease or hire). A V5 registration document is not proof of ownership and other documentation will be required. This can include, but is not limited to
 - a) Receipt for the purchase of the vehicle

- b) Lease/hire contract
- c) Partnership agreement between 2 or more individuals

Character of the applicant

- 5.23 The licensee of a hackney carriage can exert control over those who drive that vehicle, and as a consequence it is essential that they satisfy the council that they are a suitable person to hold a hackney carriage vehicle licence.
- 5.24 All applicants for a hackney carriage vehicle licence (new and on renewal) will be required to provide a Basic Disclosure and Barring Service check at their own expense, as part of the application process. The same will be required of all partners in a limited liability or conventional partnership and all directors and secretary of a limited company when the application is made, or the licence is held, by a limited liability or conventional partnership or limited company. This does not apply if a proprietor is a licensed driver with the Council and already holds a valid enhanced DBS certificate and subscribes to the update service.
- 5.25 The application will then be considered in the light of the council's previous convictions policy (see section 3).
- 5.26 In addition, the council will take into account the compliance and maintenance history of previous and existing vehicles licensed by the applicant. The council does not regard licensees whose vehicles fail regular tests as being a safe and suitable person to have responsibility for hackney carriages. All vehicles must be maintained to a satisfactory standard all times and should pass any test at any point.
- 5.27 To enable the council to make a decision as to whether or not an applicant is a suitable person to be granted or continue to hold a hackney carriage vehicle licence the following test will be used:
- “Without any prejudice, and based on the information before you, would you be comfortable allowing this person to have control of a licensed vehicle that can travel anywhere, at any time of the day or night without arousing suspicion, and be satisfied that they would not allow it to be used for criminal or other unacceptable purposes, and be confident that they would maintain it to an acceptable standard throughout the period of the licence?”

Convictions

- 5.28 If you or anybody else with an interest in the vehicle or who is named on the licence is arrested in connection with, charged with or convicted of any criminal offence, that must be reported to the council within 72 hours

(including weekends and bank holidays). The same requirement applies in relation to any fixed penalty notices, speed awareness courses, Community Protection Notices, civil injunctions or Criminal Behaviour Orders or other sanctions or restrictions that you receive, have to attend or that are imposed on you.

Vehicles

5.29 It is the applicants responsibility to ensure that any vehicle presented for licensing as a hackney carriage meets the Council's criteria which are detailed below. As the council will not be liable for any loss as a result of a vehicle not being licensed, it is vital that applicants ensure that any vehicle that they are considering purchasing meets these criteria.

Limits on the Numbers of Hackney Carriages

5.30 There are no limits on the number of Hackney carriages that are licensed.

Licensed Vehicle Type, Age and Emissions

5.31 Any vehicle submitted to be licensed as a hackney carriage must be of Category M1 (as shown on the registration document) unless either of the following apply:

- Category M2 or N1 vehicles (as shown on the registration document) will be acceptable provided the vehicle has passed an IVA (Individual Voluntary Approval) test and there is evidence to show that no modification to be made to that vehicle since the date of that test. It must be undertaken by a qualified engineer.
- Q registered vehicles are not accepted.
- Convertible vehicles will not be accepted.

5.32 Vehicles are constantly being improved by manufacturers, and improved standards are imposed by the Government. Newer vehicles are safer, less environmentally damaging and less likely to break down. Vehicles deteriorate due to a combination of age and use.

5.33 In order to reduce emissions it is important to set standards that are common to all within the hackney carriage fleet, to ensure consistency and a level playing field for proprietors. The age of vehicles and the exhaust emissions are critical to the level of pollutants emitted. Consequently, to improve air quality and reduce emissions from the hackney carriage fleet, the following standards will apply

5.34 From 1st April 2025, new licences will not be granted in respect of vehicles that were first registered (or, in the case of imported vehicles, manufactured) more than 5 years prior to the date that the application was made. Existing licences can remain licensed until 1st April 2026.

All such vehicles first registered (or, in the case of imported vehicles, manufactured) before 1st April 2020 must meet or exceed Euro 5 emission standards.

Vehicles first registered (or, in the case of imported vehicles, manufactured) after 1st April 2025 must meet or exceed Euro 6 emission standards.

Type of Licence	Age of Vehicle when first licensed	Maximum age of vehicle
Licences issued after 1st April 2025		
New Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Vehicle	Less than 5 years old when first licensed	10 years old (Wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) = 15 years old) * plus exceptional condition policy if applicable
Renewal – Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Vehicle	Vehicle must have been less than 5 years old when first licensed.	It can then be renewed each year until it is 10 years old. (Wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) = 15 years old) The licence must be renewed before the expiry date to fulfil this condition. * plus exceptional condition policy if applicable
Licences issued before 1st April 2025		
New & Renewal – Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Vehicle	Must comply with each legacy Council area's conditions.	Existing vehicle licences where the vehicle is older than 5 years can remain licensed until 1 st April 2026.

		<p>On or after 1st April 2026, existing vehicle licences where the vehicle is less than 5 years old will transfer over and must comply with the Cumberland policy.</p>
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5.35 From 1st April 2026, licences will not be granted or renewed in respect of any vehicle that does not meet the following requirements:

- ULEV (Ultra Low Emission Vehicle <75 g/km and 10 KM zero emission capability);
- petrol hybrid vehicles Euro 5+;
- petrol vehicles Euro 6+;
- diesel vehicles Euro 6+ (all these categories include vehicles adapted with a retrofit to an agreed approved standard).

5.36 A vehicle that does not comply with these age/emissions requirements may be considered for licensing if it is in ‘exceptional condition’. The criteria for ‘exceptional condition’ are set out below.

Exceptional Condition Criteria (*)

5.37 A vehicle will be considered to be in ‘exceptional condition’ if **all** of the following apply:

- a) The mileage for the vehicle is no higher than the average mileage that could be expected for a similar vehicle if that vehicle was used solely for social, domestic and pleasure purposes.
- b) The vehicle passes the council’s vehicle inspection.
- c) The bodywork is in near perfect condition with no signs of panel age deterioration, dents, scratches, stone chips, or rust or any other abrasions that may detract from the overall appearance of the vehicle.
- d) The general paint condition should show no signs of fading, discolouration or mismatching that may detract from the overall appearance of the vehicle.

- e) The interior trim, panels, seating and carpets and upholstery are in excellent condition, clean and free from damage and discolouration.
- f) The boot or luggage compartment is in good condition, clean and undamaged.
- g) Passenger areas are free from damp or any other odours that may cause passenger discomfort.
- h) The vehicle must be in excellent mechanical condition and in all respects safe and roadworthy, with no signs of corrosion to the mechanical parts, chassis, underside or bodywork.
- i) The vehicle must have a complete service record to show that it has been properly serviced and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's service specification. Any invoices used to support the service record must contain the registration number of the vehicle.

Low Emission Vehicles

5.38 The Council aims to encourage the uptake of low emission vehicles in the district, and will examine the feasibility of introducing differential licensing fees for electric, hybrid and ultra-low emission vehicles.

Acquired rights

5.39 If a vehicle has been continually licensed as a hackney carriage by Cumberland Council before 1st April 2025, and a renewal application is made before the expiry of that hackney carriage licence, then that vehicle can continue to be licensed, subject to it passing the required mechanical and other tests to assess suitability, until 1st April 2026. After that date it will not be licensed as a hackney carriage by Cumberland Council and it must be replaced with a vehicle that complies with Euro 6 standards.

Vehicle specification

5.40 There are 2 different types of vehicle that can be licensed as hackney carriages: those which are Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAV) and those which are not.

5.41 At present, Cumberland Council does not require all hackney carriages to be WAV but this policy may be reviewed in the future.

5.42 The Council maintains a list of all WAV (both hackney carriages and private hire vehicles). Drivers of those vehicles must then provide mobility assistance to wheelchair-bound passengers.

5.43 The following specifications detail the minimum requirements for each type of vehicle, together with the requirements for all hackney carriages.

Non-Wheelchair accessible vehicles

5.44 If the vehicle is to be licensed as a Non-WAV (saloons, estate cars, people carriers (MPV), sports utility vehicles (SUV) and any other vehicle that cannot carry a passenger whilst they remain in their wheelchair) it must be approved by the Council and comply with the following specification:

- a) Be a right-hand drive vehicle
- b) Have at least four doors that can be opened from both inside and outside the vehicle. Each door (except the drivers door) must be capable of being opened by passengers.
- c) Have a minimum seating capacity for at least four adult passengers based on a width of not less than 400 mm per person across the rear seat.
- d) Must be so constructed as to provide adequate space within its structure for the safe carriage of each passenger's luggage or any equipment. If that is not possible or practical then e. below will apply
- e) Roof racks, towbars and trailers will be permitted. Any vehicle using a roof rack must be fitted with a second roof sign, with one sign in front of the rook rack, and one behind, allowing the signs to be seen in the same way as a vehicle without a roof rack. Any luggage carried on the roof rack must be protected from the elements by a waterproof cover and properly secured. A properly fitted roof box is an acceptable alternative, subject to the additional signage as detailed above.
- f) Tow bars (if fitted) must be fitted in accordance with the manufacturers instructions.
- g) Any trailer that is used must meet the following requirements and be tested by the Council (the charge to be paid by the licensee) and will be issued with a "trailer plate" which must be displayed on the rear of the trailer and clearly visible whenever the trailer is being used by the hackney carriage. The trailer can only be used on the specified Hackney carriage. Trailers must comply with the following standards.
 - i. Unbraked trailers must be less than 750kgs gross weight.
 - ii. Trailers over 750kgs gross weight must be braked, acting on at least two road wheels.

- iii. The towing vehicle must have a kerb weight of at least twice the gross weight of the trailer.
 - iv. A suitable lid or other approved means of enclosure must be fitted to secure the contents within the trailer whenever in use and keep the contents dry.
 - v. The maximum permissible length of the trailer cannot exceed 7 metres, including the drawbar and coupling.
 - vi. The width of the trailer must not be greater than width of the towing vehicle, subject to no trailer being wider than 2.3m.
 - vii. The maximum length for braked twin axle trailers is 5.54m.
 - viii. The trailer must at all times comply with all Road Traffic legislation requirements.
 - ix. The vehicle insurance must cover towing a trailer.
 - x. Trailers must not be left unattended anywhere on the highway.
 - xi. The speed restrictions applicable to trailers must be observed at all times.
 - xii. The registration number plate of the hackney carriage and the Council issued “trailer plate” must be attached to the rear of the trailer.
 - xiii. The trailer must be inspected annually and must be considered to be satisfactory by the Licensing Authority.
 - xiv. Only drivers with the appropriate DVLA driving licence category may drive a vehicle with a trailer. The vehicle proprietor must check any driver’s DVLA licence for the required category, prior to allowing the use of a trailer.
- h) Passengers must be able to communicate with the driver via a sliding screen, mesh or hole in any division between the drivers and passenger compartments

Additional requirements for minibus and MPV type vehicles

5.45 In order to be licensed as a hackney carriage, any Minibus/MPV-type vehicles must be fitted, in addition to the front driver and passenger doors, with at least:

- a. one other side loading door plus a rear door/doors or tailgate that can be opened from inside the vehicle
- OR
- b. two side loading doors that can be opened from the inside

Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAV)

- 5.46 The vehicle must be a purpose built Hackney Carriage capable of carrying a wheelchair bound passenger which complies with the current Transport for London “Conditions of Fitness” or it meets the following specification.
- 5.47 Any vehicle, before it can be considered to be licensed as a Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle, must have, European Community Whole Vehicle Type Approval (ECWVTA), or Individual Vehicle Type Approval, including an inspection certificate issued by the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) as a minimum standard.
- a) The interior of the vehicle must be able to accommodate a wheelchair and its user riding seated within the wheelchair itself.
 - b) The passenger compartment must have a minimum unobstructed available width of 0.74 metres (including at the point of entry).
 - c) The passenger compartment must have a minimum unobstructed available length of 1.2 metres for a wheelchair and user.
 - d) The passenger compartment must have a minimum unobstructed available height for a wheelchair and user of 1.3 metres at the point of entry and 1.4 metres when in the travelling position.
 - e) The passenger compartment must be fitted with suitable wheelchair anchorages, either chassis or floor linked.
 - f) The passenger compartment must be fitted with a suitable 3-point belt or harness, either chassis or floor linked, for a wheelchair and its user. The belt/harness must be independent of the wheelchair anchorages.
 - g) The vehicle must have suitable ramps for a wheelchair user. The vehicle must have a secure and safe place for the ramps to be stored when they are not being used. Alternatively, the vehicle may be fitted with a tail lift or some other mechanical means of access, approved by the Council.
 - h) Where the vehicle is a rear loading wheelchair accessible vehicle a suitable ramp will be carried in the vehicle to be used at the commencement and end of a journey to ensure that the passenger is delivered safely onto the pavement.
 - i) At least one door entrance must be designed and constructed to help elderly and disabled passengers get in and out of the vehicle.

The door entrance and any steps must be conspicuously marked where appropriate, to help visually impaired passengers.

- j) All passenger door entrances must have grab handles or rails suitably located to help elderly and disabled passengers. All handles/rails must be conspicuously marked to help visually impaired passengers.
- k) To assist elderly and disabled passengers, at least one passenger seat must be of a “swivel” or other design and construction, approved by the Council.

All vehicles

5.48 The following are the minimum requirements for all hackney carriages, irrespective of their type:

- a) The vehicle must be wind and water-tight.
- b) The vehicle must have a floor properly covered with carpet or other suitable covering.
- c) The vehicle must have an adequate internal light to enable passengers to enter and leave the vehicle safely.
- d) The vehicle’s bodywork and paintwork must be in good condition, free from dents or other damage or rust.
- e) The vehicle must not be fitted with any additional external accident protection devices (e.g. bull bars or additional bumpers).
- f) The vehicle must carry a spare wheel and tyre of the correct size to fit the vehicle, together with equipment to change the wheel including a spare wheel and tyre, jack and wheel brace, all of which must be securely stored. If the manufacturers specification when the vehicle was new did not include a spare wheel, the manufacturers alternative (e.g. spray can) will be acceptable.
- g) The vehicle must be fitted with tyres which meet the specifications detailed by the manufacturer in terms of size and speed rating. They must have at least 2 mm of tread across the entire contact surface.
- h) The vehicle must be fitted with nearside and offside exterior rear view mirrors.
- i) The vehicle must have at least one window on each side of the passenger compartment which is capable of being opened and closed.

- j) All seats must be permanently fixed to the vehicle and must be factory fitted with a 3-point seat belt or, where that was not a manufacturers option when the vehicle was manufactured, a factory fitted lap belt. Any retrospectively fitted seat belts must be approved by the Council.
 - k) The vehicle must be fitted with glass which complies with current Construction and Use Regulations (the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 as amended). These regulations require that the front windscreen allows 75% of light to be transmitted and the front door windows allow 70% of light to be transmitted. In addition the remaining glass within the vehicle must have a minimum light transmittance of not less than 70%. The rear of the vehicle must be fitted with at least one window (or one window per rear door fitted), the light transmission capacity of which must be a minimum of 70%. No self-adhesive material (tinted or clear) can be affixed to any part of the glass without the approval of the council.
 - l) The vehicle's power output must not be less than 100 bhp or 74.5 kw.
 - m) The vehicle must carry a first aid kit, for the personal use of the driver, in a suitable container, with the licence number painted on it.
 - n) The vehicle must not be fitted with any additional lights other than those originally fitted by the manufacturer unless they have been approved by the Council.
 - o) The minimum unobstructed distance between the uncompressed seat cushion and the roof must be 0.9 metres (measured 0.25 metres from and parallel with the seat back) in relation to the front passenger and driver seats, and 0.84 metres in relation to any other passenger seats.
 - p) The minimum unobstructed distance between the seat back and the footwell bulkhead/facing seat back must be 0.95 metres in relation to the front passenger and driver seats, and 0.6 metres in relation to any other passenger seats.
 - q) The minimum unobstructed interior width of the vehicle must be 1.3 metres (excluding any armrests).
 - r) Any vehicle that has been converted to run on liquid petroleum gas (LPG) must be accompanied by a certificate stating that the conversion was undertaken in accordance with the LPG gas Association's code of practice, and if the conversion was undertaken more than one month before the application for the licence, an annual installation check which is not more than one month old.
- 5.49 In addition, in all types of hackney carriage the following requirements must be met.

Seating

5.50 In any vehicle all exits must be easily accessible and not obstructed by another seat. Access to all doors must be free from obstruction. Any seats that require passengers to move any part of another seat to gain access or egress will not be licensed for carrying passengers. The seating configuration and number of passengers that can be carried is subject to assessment by the Council.

Documents

5.51 A vehicle licence will only be issued where the vehicle has evidence of:

- a) A valid vehicle insurance certificate specifically stating that the vehicle is to be used for public hire/hackney carriage use.
- b) An MOT Certificate issued by an approved MOT test centre.
- c) A V5 vehicle registration document. In case of a new vehicle the sales invoice which must show engine and chassis numbers, shall be produced at the time of application and the registration document when it is received from DVLA. The registration document must in all cases be produced within 6 weeks of the licence being issued.
- d) The complete service history for the vehicle.

5.52 Before or on the date of expiry of any certificate, the certificate about to expire must be produced together with the relevant renewal certificate to the Council.

5.53 All documentation must be originals.

Engine/Chassis Numbers

5.54 The Chassis/Vehicle Identification Number Plates and engine numbers must match the numbers recorded with the DVLA as detailed on the V5 Document. Vehicle applications cannot be accepted without a copy of the vehicle registration document, or in the case of new vehicle purchase, the sales documentation indicating the engine and chassis numbers. In the event of a vehicle being presented with numbers that do not correspond to the paperwork the Council will inform the Police Vehicle Identification Section who may undertake checks to ensure the vehicle is not stolen. If the engine is changed at any time whilst the vehicle is a licensed hackney carriage, the Council must be notified within 72 hours of that change and the updated V5 must be produced as soon as it is received from DVLA.

Maintenance and servicing

- 5.55 Vehicles must be maintained correctly and serviced in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations. The service history of the vehicle will be inspected at first application and on every renewal of the licence.

Vehicle tests

- 5.56 A licence will be granted or renewed only if the vehicle is considered by the Council to be roadworthy, fit for purpose and meets the criteria specified.
- 5.57 Vehicles will be tested before the licence is initially granted, then every 6 months for vehicles up to 5 years old and every 4 months for vehicles older than that.
- 5.58 Tests in relation to new applications, renewals and vehicle substitutions are carried out at the Council’s testing Centre.
- 5.59 The vehicle must have an MOT certificate from an approved MOT test centre.
- 5.60 The applicant or licensee must make an appointment for the vehicle to be tested as part of the application process. It is the responsibility of the applicant/licensee to do this and then to ensure that the vehicle is presented at the specified location and time. If the vehicle is presented late, there is no guarantee that the test will be able to be conducted on that day and a further test must be arranged. In that case the initial test fee will be forfeited and a second fee must be paid for the rearranged test.
- 5.61 A test appointment can be cancelled only if at least two clear working days notice (excluding Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays, the day on which notice is given and the day of the test) is given to the Council. If the specified notice is not given then the full test fee will still be charged.
- 5.62 If the consequence of missing the test means that the licence cannot be renewed before expiry, this will prevent the vehicle being used until such time as the licence is granted, with loss of income to the licensee. If the delay is considerable, this may result in the renewal application being treated as a new application for a hackney carriage proprietors licence, in which case any acquired rights will be lost.

“Dual Plating”

- 5.63 Once a vehicle has been licensed as a hackney carriage by Cumberland Council, it cannot be licensed as a hackney carriage (or private hire vehicle) by any other local authority or Transport for London during the duration of the licence.

- 5.64 The Council will not licence a vehicle that is licensed as a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle by another local authority or Transport for London.

Insurance “write-offs”

- 5.65 The council will not licence any vehicle as a hackney carriage that has been written off by an insurance company.

Vehicle Use

- 5.66 You must maintain a policy of insurance for your licensed vehicle in accordance with Section 143 of the Road Traffic Act 1988.
- 5.67 If your vehicle has an accident which results in damage which may affect its safety, performance, appearance or the comfort or convenience of your passengers, you must report this to the Council within 72 hours (including weekends and bank holidays). (Section 50)(3) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 5.68 You must not obstruct any Authorised Officer or Police Officer. You must provide any assistance or information they may reasonably require. (Section 73) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 5.69 Any person driving a Hackney Carriage Vehicle at any time, for any purpose and anywhere in the United Kingdom, must be licensed to drive a Hackney Carriage under Section 46 Town Police Clauses Act 1847, even if the vehicle is not being used for hackney carriage or pre-booked purposes. Any person driving a hackney carriage without the required Hackney carriage driver’s licence will be committing an offence under section 47 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847. The only exceptions to this are when the vehicle is being tested by the Council or a mechanic in connection with vehicle maintenance, and driving the vehicle to and from any such test.
- 5.70 If any hackney carriage proprietor permits a person who does not hold a hackney carriage drivers licence to drive the vehicle at any time (other than in accordance with the exceptions detailed above) the proprietor commits an offence and the Council will consider this a serious matter and action may be taken against the hackney carriage proprietors (vehicle) licence (whether or not a criminal prosecution or conviction ensued).
- 5.71 Once a vehicle has been licensed as a hackney carriage by Cumberland Council, it retains that status at all times for the duration of the licence (24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition to the requirement that it is only driven by a hackney carriage driver licensed by Cumberland Council (see above) the proprietor must ensure that it all times and wherever it may be located it complies with all requirements contained within the

legislation and conditions. This includes the cleanliness of the vehicle, display of licence plates and additional signage.

- 5.72 If the hackney carriage vehicle licence is suspended, revoked or not renewed, the proprietor must return the licence plates and additional signage to the Council. If the decision is appealed, this must be done immediately after the end of the appeal period (21 days from the written notification of the decision, or after any such appeal is determined or abandoned). If the suspension is immediate (under section 68 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976) this requirement must be complied with immediately.
- 5.73 If the proprietor refuses to surrender the vehicle plates and additional signage, tamperproof "Vehicle Licence Suspended" stickers will be affixed to the vehicle plates. These will destroy the plates. and replacements must be purchased from the Council if and when the suspension is lifted.

WARNING NOTICE

- 5.74 If there is anything in the design, construction, form or working appearance of a vehicle which, in the opinion of the Council or its authorised officers or testers renders the vehicle unfit for hackney carriage use (which includes pre-booked work), then Cumberland Council will not licence that vehicle.
- 5.75 Cumberland Council is not liable for any expense incurred in preparing or testing a vehicle, which cannot be licensed for whatever reason.
- 5.76 Any unauthorised modifications made since a previous licence was issued may lead to the suspension, revocation or refusal to renew a licence.

Taximeters

- 5.77 All vehicles must be fitted with a Council approved taximeter. The specifications for the meter are contained in section ?? The use of the taximeter is detailed in the driver's licence policy and code of conduct at section ??

Duration and renewal of the licence

- 5.78 The licence expires twelve months from the date of issue. Any application for renewal must be made at least one month before the licence expires. If you do not apply to renew the vehicle licence in time there may be a period when you will be unable to use the vehicle as a Hackney carriage. If the renewal application is not received before the expiry of the current hackney carriage vehicle licence, it will be treated

as a new application rather than a renewal and you will have to provide all the information that is required for new application. In that case any acquired rights will be lost. A temporary licence will not be issued.

- 5.79 Renewals are generally dealt with by officers under delegated powers, and can be processed quite quickly. However, if there have been any changes since the last grant of the licence (e.g. if the vehicle's age exceeds the policy or you or any of your joint proprietors (or directors or secretary in the case of a limited company) have been convicted of any offence, or there have been complaints or causes for concern about your behaviour) the renewal application may need to be considered by the regulatory sub-committee.
- 5.80 The licence is issued to you but it can be transferred to another individual, partnership or limited company. Notification of any transfer must be made in writing and indicate the consent of all interested parties. An updated insurance document, V5 registration document and the applicable fee must be produced to the Council before any licence will be transferred. The Council will then issue a revised licence identifying the new licensee(s).
- 5.81 Following any transfer of licence to another person, on expiry of that licence, renewal will be at the Council's discretion. The Council may also review the licence following transfer.

Plates and Additional Signage

- 5.82 The licence plates and other additional signage provided to you by the Council must be displayed on the vehicle at all times in accordance with the diagrams contained in appendix ???. In addition, wheelchair accessible hackney carriages will be required to display "Wheelchair" stickers at all times.
- 5.83 If you lose or damage the plates or additional signage, replacements must be purchased from the Council.

Vehicle substitution

- 5.84 If you wish to change the vehicle that is licensed the following procedures must be followed:
- a) You must complete an application for the "replacement" vehicle.
 - b) You must pay the stated fee for a 12-month period.
 - c) You must surrender the original licence. Any refund against a licence will be calculated by the Council on the number of days left on the original licence. This will take into account the period of time for which the licence

has been held and the administration costs incurred, and will be subject to a minimum level of £50, below which no refund will be made.

- d) Your replacement vehicle must be presented for test and subsequently pass.
- e) Written proof of consent to the change of vehicle must be provided from all interested parties.
- f) You must maintain and produce evidence of a continuous policy of insurance, which clearly states that the vehicle is to be used as a hackney carriage. All such policies must be in the name of the licensee of the vehicle.

Letting/leasing of vehicles

- 5.85 You must not lease or let or hire a licensed Hackney Carriage to any other person, other than a fare paying passenger, without first notifying the Council in writing. If you do enter into a leasing arrangement you will remain the licensee and will still be responsible for the vehicle.
- 5.86 You must notify the Council in writing of anyone no longer having an interest in the vehicle within 72 hours of the event.
- 5.87 The licence only relates to the vehicle specified in that licence, and at all times the vehicle must be owned by the licensee (or 1 person in a partnership). In the case of a vehicle which is leased to the proprietor by leasing company, the proprietor's name must be on the DVLA registration document (V5) and the applicant must provide supporting paperwork to show the leasing arrangement.

ADVERTISEMENTS

- 5.88 No advertisements may be displayed in or from the vehicle unless prior written approval of the Council has been obtained. Any advertising must comply with all legislation and the British Code of Advertising Practice. Full details of the advertising policy is shown at appendix ???

Maps and navigational devices

- 5.89 Any electronic navigational device which is being used must be securely located within the vehicle and must not be operated by the driver while the vehicle is moving. Any electronic navigational device must be updated regularly. No handheld devices can be used unless they are securely located in a suitable cradle or other mounting device.

The taximeter and table of fares

- 5.90 The vehicle must be fitted with a sealed taximeter that has been approved by the Council. It must be mounted in such a way as to avoid injury to the driver or passengers in the case of any collision and where it is visible to passengers. This must be in a safe and practical position in the vehicle where all letters and figures displayed on the meter are clearly visible to any passenger. The letters and figures must therefore be illuminated when in use.
- 5.91 The Council must approve the location and fixing and test the meter before the vehicle can be used as a hackney carriage.
- 5.92 The meter must be set to ensure that the charge will never exceed the amount specified in the Council’s Hackney Carriage Table of Fares.
- 5.93 When the meter is in use, the fare must be clearly legible on the face of the meter. This fare must be unambiguous and must not exceed the fare permitted by the Council’s Hackney Carriage Table of Fares.
- 5.94 The word “FARE” must be clearly printed on the meter so it clearly indicates the fare displayed.
- 5.95 A notice showing the current Table of Fares must be displayed inside the vehicle in a position where any passengers can easily read it.

Radios and other equipment

- 5.96 Any radio, booking systems/data heads and/or GPS equipment provided must be maintained in a safe condition and any defects must be repaired promptly. The booking agent/licensed operator must ensure that the licence issued by Ofcom for all radio equipment used is current and valid. All equipment must only be used on the frequencies stipulated in the Ofcom licence and the booking agent/licensed operator must allow the Council access to inspect all equipment and Ofcom licenses.
- 5.97 Any radio, booking systems/data heads and/or GPS equipment provided must not interfere with any other radio or telecommunication equipment.
- 5.98 Where apparatus for the operation of a two-way radio, booking system/data heads and/or GPS systems are fitted, no part of the apparatus can be situated in a way which could cause accident or injury to a passenger, nor can it be placed in the rear boot compartment if LPG tanks are situated in there.

Signs

- 5.99 No sign or advertisement is permitted on the vehicle, and no flag or other emblem can be flown from the vehicle, except as detailed below, unless

required by law, or has been agreed by the Council in writing (see above in relation to advertisements).

- 5.100 The vehicle must be fitted with a sign with the word “TAXI” (minimum size 35 cm wide and 10 cm high) on its roof. The sign may be illuminated when the vehicle is available for hire and must be switched when the meter is operating.
- 5.101 You may display the name and telephone number of the company operating your vehicle in its rear windows. However, the display must be no more than 10 cm high, must not contravene the Road Traffic (Construction and Use) Regulations, and must not be illuminated.

CCTV

CCTV is not mandatory but you may choose to install it.

Seating Arrangements

- 5.102 In the vehicle all exits must be easily accessible and not obstructed by another seat. Access to all doors must be free from obstruction. Any seats that require passengers to move any part of another seat to gain access or egress will not be licensed for carrying passengers. This seat must be removed prior to test. The seating configuration and number of passengers that can be carried is subject to assessment by the Council.

Incident logs

- 5.103 The proprietor must maintain an incident log in an accessible format (either on a computer, other electronic device or a notebook). This must be used to record all incidents affecting the use of the hackney carriage including, but not limited to,
- a) collisions or accidents;
 - b) damage to the vehicle;
 - c) problems with the meter;
 - d) refusals by any driver to carry a passenger (including the date, time, location, and reason for the refusal);
 - e) any events, circumstances or incidents which lead the driver or proprietor to suspect that a passenger or passengers is involved in or is a victim of child sexual exploitation or any other abuse, modern slavery or trafficking of people, abuse or supply of drugs, involvement in terrorism or any other criminal activity.
- 5.104 Incidents must be recorded immediately, or as soon as possible thereafter and must state the date time and location of the incident, the

names (if known) of any third parties and the date and time on which the incident was recorded.

5.105 This log must be available for inspection by an authorised officer of the council or a police constable at all times on request.

CONDITIONS

5.106 The following Conditions are attached to your Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence and must be complied with at all times. Failure to comply with conditions may lead to penalty points being imposed on your hackney carriage vehicle licence, suspension, revocation or refusal to renew the hackney carriage vehicle licence.

5.107 You must return your licence (and the plates and additional signage if requested by the Council) to the Council immediately if

- a) You change your home or business address
- b) If the licence expires, or is suspended or revoked
- c) You wish to surrender your Hackney Carriage Licence
- d) When required to do so by an Authorised Officer of the Council.

5.108 You must notify the Council within 72 hours of the event (including weekends and bank holidays) if you or anybody named on the licence as a joint proprietor (or any director or secretary of a limited company, or partner in a Limited Liability Partnership when the licence is held by such a body) is arrested in connection with, charged with or convicted of any criminal offence. The same requirement applies in relation to any fixed penalty notices, speed awareness courses, community protection notices or civil injunctions.

5.109 If your vehicle has an accident which results in damage which may affect its safety, performance or appearance or the comfort or convenience of your passengers, you must report this to the Council within 72 hours (including weekends and bank holidays). If you are in doubt as to whether the vehicle is affected you must notify the Council.

5.110 You must maintain an incident log in an accessible format (either on a computer, other electronic device or a notebook). In this you must record all incidents affecting the use of the hackney carriage including, but not limited to,

- a) collisions or accidents;
- b) damage to the vehicle;
- c) problems with the meter;
- d) refusals by any driver to carry a passenger (including the date, time, location, and reason for the refusal);

e) any events, circumstances or incidents which lead the driver or proprietor to suspect that a passenger or passengers is involved in or is a victim of child sexual exploitation or any other abuse, modern slavery or trafficking of people, abuse or supply of drugs, involvement in terrorism or any other criminal activity.

5.111 Incidents must be recorded immediately, or as soon as possible thereafter and must state the date time and location of the incident, the names (if known) of any third parties and the date and time on which the incident was recorded.

5.112 This log must be available for inspection by an authorised officer of the council or a police constable at all times on request.

Drivers

5.113 You must notify the Council of the details (name, address and taxi drivers' licence number) of any person who is permitted by you to drive your hackney carriage for any purpose (this does not include mechanics undertaking vehicle maintenance). This notification must be made as soon as possible and in any event within 72 hours of that permission being given. If you no longer permit that person to drive your hackney carriage you must notify the Licensing Section in writing, using the Council's approved forms, within 72 hours.

5.114 Before you allow anyone to drive your Hackney Carriage you must ensure that that person hold the appropriate licence. You must ensure that they understand and will observe the law and byelaws that regulate their conduct and the conditions attached to the vehicle licence.

5.115 Note- No person may drive a Hackney Carriage, unless they hold a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence issued by Cumberland Council. Anyone found driving a Hackney Carriage without a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence, may be prosecuted.

Insurance

5.116 You must ensure that a valid policy of comprehensive insurance for hackney carriage work/public hire is in place for the vehicle and covers anyone who drives your Hackney Carriage.

Production of Documents

5.117 You must not obstruct any Authorised Officer or Police Officer. You must provide any assistance or information they may reasonably require.

5.118 If an Authorised Officer of the Council (or another Council with whom a reciprocal arrangement is in place) or a police officer asks you, you must produce:

- a) Your licence
- b) The Hackney Carriage Driver Licence of any person authorised to drive your Hackney Carriage
- c) The vehicle registration document
- d) A valid certificate of insurance

within five days of the request being made.

Licence Plates

5.119 The licence plates and additional signage remain the property of the Council and must be returned to the Council whenever the vehicle is not licensed as a Hackney Carriage.

5.120 You must secure and display the exterior licence plates permanently to the outmost front and rear part of the vehicle. The method of fixing must prevent the plates being removed without the need for tools. Both plates must at all times must be displayed so that it can be clearly read by pedestrians and road users. The licence plates must not be displayed in any window of the vehicle.

5.121 You must display the additional signage on the near side and off side front doors and the internal signs issued by the Council inside the vehicle so that they are visible to front and rear passengers at all times. All wheelchair accessible vehicles must display a wheelchair sticker on the near side and off side rear doors.

5.122 You must display the window sticker, issued by the Council, in the vehicle where it can be clearly seen by all passengers.

5.123 You must report the theft or loss of the licence plates or additional signage to the. You must then obtain duplicate licence plates and/or additional signage for which a charge will be made.

5.124 You must not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer any plates or additional signage on your vehicle to be concealed from public view at any time.

5.125 You must return the licence plates and additional signage to the council
If the hackney carriage proprietor (vehicle) licence is suspended, revoked or not renewed,

Vehicle inspection

- 5.126 You must allow an Authorised Officer of the Council, or Police Officer, to inspect your vehicle at any reasonable time.
- 5.127 You must ensure the vehicle is presented for test in accordance with instructions from the Council.
- 5.128 You must produce the vehicle registration document or bill of sale/sales invoice and the service history (invoices specifying the registration number will be accepted) to the authorised examiner at the test. If applicable, the LOLER (Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations) must also be provided.

Specification for a Hackney Carriage

- 5.129 No change in the specification, design, condition or appearance, or any modification, conversion or alteration of the vehicle can be made unless prior written approval has been given by the Council.
- 5.130 The vehicle must fully comply with all relevant Road Traffic legislation and in addition:
- a) All doors must function correctly and be capable of being opened from outside and within the vehicle.
 - b) All opening windows must function correctly and be capable of being opened from within the vehicle.
 - c) All luggage must be properly secured inside a vehicle that does not have a separate and self contained boot.
 - d) If a trailer is being used the driver must ensure that the lights on the trailer are working correctly and that the trailer plate is properly displayed on the rear of the trailer. A waterproof cover must be used to protect any luggage.
 - e) Passengers must be able to communicate with the driver via a sliding screen, mesh or hole in any division which may be fitted between the drivers and passenger compartments.
 - f) The vehicle and all seats, door handles and trim, and all internal and external parts of the vehicle must be maintained at all times in a clean, comfortable, safe, and mechanically sound condition and be in every way suitable for public service.
 - g) The floor covering must not be torn or frayed.
 - h) The vehicle must have an adequate functioning internal light to enable passengers to enter and leave the vehicle safely.

- i) The vehicle's bodywork and paintwork must be maintained to an acceptable standard free of dents or rust.
- j) The vehicle must carry a spare wheel to fit the vehicle, and the wheel together with equipment to change the wheel, jack and wheel brace must be securely stored. This does not apply if the manufacturers specification when new did not include a spare wheel, in which case the manufacturers alternative (e.g. spray can) will be acceptable.
- k) The vehicle must be fitted with tyres which meet the specifications detailed by the manufacturer in terms of size and speed rating. All tyres must have at least 2 mm of tread across the entire contact surface.
- l) The vehicle must be fitted with nearside and offside exterior rear view mirrors which must be maintained in a serviceable condition.
- m) The glass in the vehicle must not be replaced with glass that is different from the glass fitted when the vehicle passed the Councils vehicle test. Any unapproved (by the Council) self-adhesive material (tinted or clear) must not be affixed to any part of the glass.
- n) The vehicle's power output must not be less than power output when the vehicle was new, and any replacement engine must be of the same or greater power output. In the case of a replacement engine, the Council must be notified of that within 72 hours of the fitting, and the revised V5 must be presented to the council as soon as it is received.
- o) At all times the vehicle must carry a first aid kit, for the personal use of the driver, in a suitable container.
- p) The vehicle must not be fitted with any additional lights other than those originally fitted by the manufacturer unless they have been approved by the Council.

Additional Conditions for wheelchair accessible Hackney Carriages:

- 5.131 At all times, the vehicle must carry in a safe, usable condition suitable ramps for a wheelchair user. If the alternative tail lift or some other mechanical means of access is fitted it must be maintained in a safe, functioning condition.
- 5.132 The driver must ensure before the commencement of the journey that the passenger is correctly seated and the wheelchair is correctly secured and the passenger is correctly restrained, and at the end of the journey must ensure that the passenger is delivered safely onto the pavement.
- 5.133 The door entrance and any steps must always be conspicuously marked where appropriate, to help visually impaired passengers.

5.134 All grab handles or rails must always be conspicuously marked to help visually impaired passengers.

Sliding doors

5.135 Where sliding doors are an integral part of a vehicle and a locking device has not been fitted, the child locking systems must be engaged by the driver at all times when the vehicle is in motion and carrying passengers.

Lost property

5.136 The driver must search the vehicle after each hiring has been completed, and any lost property found must be recorded. If the driver knows the identity and/or whereabouts of the last passenger, they can return the property to them. If not the driver must make reasonable efforts to trace the owner and return the property to them. If the hackney carriage had been pre-booked via a booking agent or licensed private hire operator the lost property can be given to them.

The meter / table of fares

5.137 The vehicle must be fitted with a sealed taximeter that has been approved by the Council. It must be mounted in such a way as to avoid injury to the driver or passengers in the case of any collision and where it is visible to passengers. This must be in a safe and practical position in the vehicle where all letters and figures displayed on the meter are clearly visible to any passenger. The letters and figures must therefore be illuminated when in use.

5.138 The meter must be set to ensure that the charge will never exceed the amount specified in the Council's Hackney Carriage Table of Fares.

5.139 When the meter is in use, the fare must be clearly legible on the face of the meter. This fare must be unambiguous and must not exceed the fare permitted by the Council's Hackney Carriage table of Fares.

5.140 The word "FARE" must be clearly printed on the meter so it clearly indicates the fare displayed.

5.141 The meter must only be brought into action and the fare or charge must only commence from the point at which the hirer starts his/her journey.

5.142 If the meter fails or does not comply with the conditions, you must ensure the vehicle is not used as a hackney carriage.

5.143 A notice showing the current Table of Fares must be displayed inside the vehicle in a position where all passengers can easily read it.

Maps and navigational devices

5.144 Any electronic navigational device which is being used must be securely located within the vehicle and must not be operated by the driver while the vehicle is moving. Any electronic navigational device must be updated regularly. No handheld devices can be used unless they are securely located in a suitable cradle or other mounting device.

Signage

5.145 No sign or advertisement can be displayed on (or flown from or otherwise be attached to) the vehicle unless it is required by law, or has been agreed by the Council in writing.

5.146 The vehicle must at all times be fitted with a sign with the word “TAXI” (minimum size 35 cm wide and 10 cm high) on its roof. The sign may be illuminated when the vehicle is available for hire and switch off when the meter is operating.

5.147 If the vehicle is wheelchair accessible, it must display a sticker to illustrate this.

No Smoking

5.148 The vehicle must have at least 1 “no smoking/no vaping” sign displayed inside the vehicle clearly visible to passengers.

Byelaws

5.149 **Insert a copy of the relevant byelaws**

Up to date list of hackney carriage ranks

5.150 **Insert a list of current Hackney carriage** ranks

Up to date Table of Fares

5.151 **Insert the current table of fares.**

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS relating to a Hackney carriage

5.152 It is an offence to provide false information when applying for hackney carriage proprietors licence (s40 Town Police Clauses Act 1847).

5.153 You must notify the Council of any change of address of yourself or any other hackney carriage proprietor (s44 Town Police Clauses Act 1847).

- 5.154 The proprietor of a hackney carriage commits an offence if the vehicle is used to ply or stand for hire other than in the zone or district in which it is licensed (s45 Town Police Clauses Act 1847).
- 5.155 You must not employ an unlicensed driver (s47 Town Police Clauses Act 1847).
- 5.156 You must hold the drivers licence of those driving the vehicle, and produce it if requested to do so by a magistrates court (s48 Town Police Clauses Act 1847).
- 5.157 You must ensure that all times the vehicle displays the hackney carriage plate (s52 Town Police Clauses Act 1847).
- 5.158 You must notify any transfer of the vehicle licence to another proprietor within 14 days (s49 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 5.159 You must present the hackney carriage for inspection as required by the Council (s50(1) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 5.160 You must inform the council where the hackney carriage is stored if requested to do so (s50(1) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 5.161 You must report any collision that has caused damage to the safety performance or appearance of the vehicle to the council within 72 hours (s50(3) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 5.162 You must produce the vehicle licence and insurance if requested to do so by the Council (s50(4) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 5.163 You must return the plate to the council once you receive notice to do so after expiry revocation or suspension of the proprietors licence (s58(2) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 5.164 It is an offence to interfere with a taximeter (s71 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 5.165 You must not obstruct, fail to comply with any requirement made by, or fail to give any information to, an authorised officer of the Council, an authorised officer of another Council with which there is a reciprocal enforcement arrangement, or a police constable (s73 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976).
- 5.166 You must not conceal obscure the number of the hackney carriage whilst standing or plying for hire, or use the vehicle with a defaced or damaged plate (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 2??).

- 5.167 You must provide a means of communication between passengers and drivers (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 3??).
- 5.168 You must ensure that the vehicle is watertight (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 3??).
- 5.169 You must ensure that the windows open and close (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 3??).
- 5.170 You must ensure that the seats are properly covered(Hackney Carriage Bylaw 3??).
- 5.171 You must ensure that the floor is properly covered (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 3??).
- 5.172 You must ensure that the vehicle is clean well maintained and fit for public service (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 3??).
- 5.173 You must ensure that there is a means for securing luggage if required (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 3??).
- 5.174 You must ensure that the fire extinguisher is a readily available location (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 3??).
- 5.175 You must ensure that the taximeter is plainly visible to passengers and illuminated (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 4??).
- 5.176 You must not tamper with the taximeter (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 6??).
- 5.177 You must display the table of fares and not conceal it or render it illegible (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 15??).
- 5.178 You must search the vehicle after every hiring (usually the responsibility of the driver, but also applies to the proprietor) (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 16??).
- 5.179 You must deliver any lost property to the Council or the police station within 48 hours of finding it (Hackney Carriage Bylaw 17??).