

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE CONDITIONS

General

No changes to the specification, design or appearance shall be made to the vehicle without the prior approval of the Licensing Officer.

The vehicle must be maintained so that the doors open sufficiently wide as to allow easy access to and egress from the vehicle and cause no inconvenience to passengers.

The Licence Holder shall ensure that all fittings and seating are such as to be efficient, safe, tidy and clean.

The vehicle must comply with all relevant road traffic regulations and legislation in force.

Passenger Seats

All passenger seats (including spaces for wheelchairs) shall be of sufficient dimensions as to allow the passenger using the seat to be carried in safety and comfort. In the case of passenger seats, these must be at least 400mm wide for each seat that is to be licensed for the carriage of passengers.

Side facing passenger seats are prohibited.

Fire Extinguisher and First Aid Kit

The licence holder shall ensure that a fire extinguisher and first aid kit is provided in the vehicle and is maintained in good working order and readily available for use.

CCTV

CCTV systems may be installed in the vehicle with the approval of the Licensing Officer.

CCTV systems must be operated in accordance with current legislation including data protection legislation.

Luggage

All luggage must be stored securely and if appropriate the vehicle shall be fitted with suitable equipment to prevent luggage from entering the passenger compartment.

Any roof racks, roof boxes and trailers to be used must have been approved by the Licensing Officer.

Seatbelts

Each passenger seat must have an appropriate, operational seatbelt.

Meter

A meter may be installed in a private hire vehicle however if installed it must have a sign attached stating that 'This is a private hire vehicle' and clearly display the tariff to which the meter is set. The licence holder must advise the Council of the tariff to which a meter in a private hire vehicle is set.

Private Hire Vehicle Plates

The exterior licence plate shall be displayed on the outside rear of the vehicle and shall be displayed at all times that the licence is in force. The licence plate must be clearly visible at all times.

This requirement does not apply where the plate has been removed temporarily to either allow cleaning or maintenance of the vehicle, or to avoid theft of the plate whilst the vehicle is not in use.

The licence plates shall remain the property of the Licensing Authority and in the event that the licence is suspended, revoked or expired it shall be returned to the Licensing Authority within seven days from the date of a notice served on the licence holder by the Licensing Authority.

Roof Signs

The displaying of signs on or above the roof of a private hire vehicle is prohibited.

Door Panels

There shall be clearly displayed on one or both sides of the vehicle, the name of the business, or if there is no business name, the name of the holder of the operator's licence, the telephone number of the business or operator and the words private hire. The words "CAB" or "TAXI" must not be displayed on the vehicle.

An exemption from this condition can be provided on written request to the Licensing Officer for vehicles used exclusively for "executive hire". "Executive hire" means that the vehicle is used exclusively to provide transport under a written contract to companies or persons, or by the type of clients who for security or personal safety reasons would not want the vehicle to be identifiable.

Advertising

Advertisements may be permitted to be displayed on the outside rear doors of the vehicle and the rear of the vehicle only. All artwork in respect of advertisements shall be submitted to the Licensing Officer for approval to ensure that no controversial subjects shall be advertised.

Internal advertisements may be permitted subject to the above preconditions but must not be affixed to any windows

Change of address or details of Licence

A holder of a private hire vehicle licence must notify the Licensing Authority in writing within seven days of any changes in the details of their private hire vehicle licence including a change of private hire vehicle operator or a change of address.

Vehicle Testing

A private hire vehicle over 1 year and under 5 years old must have a Licensing Authority vehicle test every 12 months.

A private hire vehicle over 5 years old must have a Licensing Authority vehicle test every 6 months.

Driver

The vehicle may only be driven by a driver licensed by Tewkesbury Borough Council and who has authority to drive the appropriate category of vehicle on their DVLA driving licence for the vehicle concerned.