



TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**BYELAWS WITH RESPECT TO HACKNEY CARRIAGES
IN THE BOROUGH OF TEWKESBURY**

BOROUGH OF TEWKESBURY BYELAWS

Byelaws made by the Tewkesbury Borough Council under Section 68 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847, and Section 171 of the Public Health Act 1875.

Interpretation

1. Throughout these byelaws:- “the Council” means the Borough Council of Tewkesbury and “the district” means the Borough of Tewkesbury.

Provisions regulating the manner in which the number of each hackney carriage corresponding with the number of its licence shall be displayed.

- 2.a) The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the number of the licence granted to him in respect of the carriage to be legibly painted or marked on the outside and inside of the carriage, or on plates provided by the Council affixed thereto,

- b) A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall :-

- i. not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer any such number to be concealed from public view while the carriage is standing or plying for hire;
- ii. not cause or permit the carriage to stand or ply for hire with any such painting, marking or plate so defaced that any figure or material particular is illegible.

Provisions regulating how hackney carriages are to be furnished or provided.

3. The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall:-
 - a) provide sufficient means by which any person in the carriage may communicate with the driver;
 - b) cause the roof or covering to be kept water-tight;
 - c) provide any necessary windows and a means of opening and closing not less than one window on each side;
 - d) cause the seats to be properly cushioned or covered;
 - e) cause the floor to be provided with a proper carpet, mat, or other suitable covering;
 - f) cause the fittings and furniture generally to be kept in a clean condition, well maintained and in every way fit for public service;
 - g) provide means for securing luggage if the carriage is so constructed as to carry luggage;

- h) provide an efficient fire extinguisher which shall be carried in such a position as to be readily available for use;
 - i) provide at least two doors for the use of persons conveyed in such carriage and a separate means of ingress and egress for the driver;
 - j) provide and maintain an electric light in the interior of such carriage for the use of any persons therein;
 - k) carry a spare wheel and tyre and suitable tools for the replacement of damaged or punctured tyres;
4. The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the same to be provided with a taximeter so constructed, attached and maintained as to comply with the following requirements, that is to say:-
- a) the taximeter shall be fitted with a device which will bring the machinery of the taximeter into action and cause the word "HIRED" to appear on the face of the taximeter;
 - b) such device shall be capable of being positioned so that the machinery of the taximeter is not in action and that no fare is recorded on the face of the taximeter;
 - c) when the machinery of the taximeter is in action there shall be recorded on the face of the taximeter in clearly legible figures a fare not exceeding the rate or fare which the proprietor or driver is entitled to demand and take for the hire of the carriage by time as well as by distance in pursuance of the tariff fixed by the Council;
 - d) the word "FARE" shall be printed on the face of the taximeter in plain letters so as clearly to apply to the fare recorded thereon;
 - e) the taximeter shall be so placed that all letters and figures on the face thereof are at all times plainly visible to any person being conveyed in the carriage, and for that purpose the letters and figures shall be capable of being suitably illuminated during any period of hiring;
 - f) the taximeter and all the fittings thereof shall be so affixed to the carriage with seals or other appliances that it shall not be practicable for any person to tamper with them except by breaking, damaging or permanently displacing the seals or other appliances.

Provisions regulating the conduct of the proprietors and drivers of hackney carriages plying within the district, and determining whether such drivers shall wear any and what badges.

5. The driver of a hackney carriage provided with a taximeter shall :-
- a) when standing or plying for hire, keep the device fitted in pursuance of byelaw no. 4 locked in the position in which no fare is recorded on the face of the taximeter.
 - b) before beginning a journey for which a fare is charged for distance and time, bring the machinery of the taxi meter into action by means of the device, so that the word "HIRED" is legible on the face of the taximeter

and keep the machinery of the taximeter in action until the termination of the hiring;

- c) cause the face of the taximeter to be kept properly illuminated throughout any part of a hiring which is the time from half an hour after sunset to half an hour before sunrise, and at any other time at the request of the hirer.
6. A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not tamper with or permit any person to tamper with any taximeter with which the carriage is provided, with the fittings or seals fixed to it.
 7. The driver of a hackney carriage shall, when plying for hire in any street and not actually hired:-
 - a) proceed with reasonable speed to one of the stands fixed by resolution of the Council;
 - b) if a stand, at the time of his arrival, is occupied by the full number of carriages authorised to occupy it, proceed to another stand;
 - c) on arriving at a stand not already occupied by the full number of carriages authorised to occupy it, station the carriage immediately behind the carriage on the stand so as to face in the same direction;
 - d) from time to time when any other carriage immediately in front is driven off or moved forward cause his carriage to be moved forward so as to fill the place previously occupied by the carriage driven off or moved forward.
 - e) the proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not, without sufficient cause, allow such vehicle to be left unattended on any stand fixed by resolution of the Council.
 8. A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage, when standing or plying for hire, shall not importune any person to hire such a carriage or make use of the services of any other person for the purpose of importuning any person to hire such carriage.
 9. The driver of a hackney carriage shall 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.
 10. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage who has agreed or has been hired to be in attendance with the carriage at an appointed time and place shall, unless delayed or prevented by some sufficient cause, punctually attend with such carriage at such appointed time and place.
 11. The driver of a hackney carriage shall not without reasonable cause unnecessarily prolong, in distance or in time, the journey for which the hackney carriage has been hired.
 12. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not convey or permit to

be conveyed in such carriage any greater number of persons than the number of persons specified on the plate affixed to the outside of the carriage. Provided that the seating capacity may be exceeded by one person only where that person is a child of less than six years of age where the use of the rear seating only is concerned. The driver shall not allow there to be conveyed in the front of the hackney carriage any child below the age of 10 years.

13. If a badge has been provided by the Council and delivered to the driver of a hackney carriage he shall, when standing or plying for hire, and when hired, wear that badge in such position and manner as to be plainly visible. Such drivers shall not lend the badge to any other person or cause or allow any other person to wear it.
14. The driver of a hackney carriage so constructed as to carry luggage shall, when requested by any person hiring or seeking to hire the carriage:-
 - a) convey a reasonable quantity of luggage;
 - b) offer reasonable assistance in loading and unloading;
 - c) offer reasonable assistance in removing it to or from the entrance of any building, station or place at which he may take up or set down such person.
15.
 - a) The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause a statement of the fares fixed by Council resolution to be exhibited inside the carriage, in clearly distinguishable letters and figures.
 - b) The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage bearing a statement of fares in accordance with this byelaw shall not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer the letters or figures in the statement to be concealed or rendered illegible at any time while the carriage is plying or being used for hire.

Provisions securing the safe custody and re-delivery of any property accidentally left in hackney carriages, and fixing the charges to be made in respect hereof.

16. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall immediately after the termination of any hiring or as soon as practicable thereafter carefully search the carriage for any property which may have been accidentally left therein.
17. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall, if any property accidentally left therein by any person who may have been conveyed in the carriage be found or handed to him:
 - a) carry it as soon as possible and in any event within 48 hours, if not sooner claimed by or on behalf of its owner, to the office of the Council or Police

Station in the district whichever is the nearer and leave it in the custody of the officer in charge of the office on his giving a receipt for it

- b) be entitled to receive from any person to whom the property shall be re-delivered an amount equal to five pence in the pound of its estimated value, (or the fare for the distance from the place of finding to the office of the Council or a Police station in the district whichever is the greater) but not more than five pounds.

Penalties

- 18. Every person who shall offend against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the Standard Scale, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further fine not exceeding two pounds for each day during which the offence continues after conviction.

Repeal of Byelaws

The byelaws relating to hackney carriages which were made by the Council of the Borough of Tewkesbury on the 12th day of December 1986 and which were confirmed by the Secretary of State on the 1st day of March 1987 are hereby repealed.

Given under the Common Seal of The Council for the Borough of Tewkesbury this 12th day of December 1986

The COMMON SEAL of THE COUNCIL THE BOROUGH OF TEWKESBURY was hereunto affixed in the presence of the Mayor and Secretary

The foregoing byelaws are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State and shall come into operation on the 1st day of March 1987.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State
An Assistant Secretary in the Department of Transport on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport

Dated 1st March 1987 Home Office, London SW1.