

III. Private Hire Vehicle Licence

DEFINITIONS

1. "Authorised Officer" has the same meaning as in Section 80 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

"The Council" means Rutland County Council District Council.

"The identification plate" means the plate issued by the Council for the purpose of identifying the vehicle as a private hire vehicle.

"The proprietor" has the same meaning as in Section 80 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

2. The external identification plate issued by the Council shall at all times be fixed to the external rear of the vehicle by the proprietor or to the place provided by the manufacturer or in accordance with the reasonable instruction of an authorised officer of the Council in such a manner as to be easily removable by such officer or constable.
3. The windscreen tear-off square issued by the Council shall at all times be kept and maintained inside the vehicle in accordance with the reasonable instructions of an authorised officer of the Council. This square must be readable from the outside of the vehicle.
4. The proprietor of the vehicle shall ensure the identification plate is maintained and kept in such condition that the information contained on the plate is clearly visible to public view at all times.
5. The proprietor of the vehicle shall cause the number of the Private Hire Vehicle licence granted by the Council to be kept clearly marked and kept and maintained inside the vehicle in such a position as to be clearly visible at all times to persons being conveyed in the vehicle.

Condition of vehicle

6. The proprietor shall ensure the private hire vehicle shall be maintained in a sound mechanical and structural condition at all times and be capable of satisfying the Council's mechanical and structural inspection at any time during the continuance of the vehicle's licence.
7. The interior and exterior of the private hire vehicle shall be maintained in a clean, safe condition by the proprietor.

8. The proprietor shall not allow the mechanical and structural specification of the private hire vehicle to be varied without the consent of an Authorised Officer of the Council.
9. The proprietor of the vehicle shall:-
 - a) Provide sufficient means by which any person in the private vehicle may communicate with the driver during the course of the hiring.
 - b) Cause the interior of the vehicle to be kept wind and water tight.
 - c) Provide any necessary windows and means of opening and closing same with not less than one window on each side of the passenger compartment.
 - d) Cause the seats in the passenger compartment to be properly cushioned and covered.
 - e) Cause the floor in the passenger compartment to be provided with a proper carpet, mat or other suitable covering.
 - f) Cause fittings and furniture of the private hire vehicle to be kept in a clean condition and well maintained and in every way fit and safe for public use.
 - g) Provide facilities for the conveyance of luggage safely and protected from inclement weather.
 - h) Provide at least two doors to the rear of the driver for use of person conveyed in such private hire vehicle and a separate means of ingress and egress from the driver.

Fire Extinguisher

10. The proprietor of the private hire vehicle shall provide and maintain to the satisfaction of an Authorised Officer an efficient fire extinguisher. The fire extinguisher shall be securely fixed to the vehicle and be within easy reach of the driver at all times. The extinguisher shall be manufactured to British Standards and shall show the BS number or equivalent ISO or CE standard. The extinguisher should be maintained in a serviceable condition.

The fire extinguisher may be kept elsewhere in the vehicle, other than within easy reach of the driver. If this is the case, then a notice must be displayed in a prominent place, detailing where the fire extinguisher can be found. If the fire extinguisher is kept within a compartment, then a

prominent notice must also be displayed on the door or cover of that compartment.

Advertisements

12. The proprietor shall not display or permit to be displayed on or from a private hire vehicle any sign or notice which consists of or includes the word "Taxi" or whether in the singular or plural or "For Hire" or any word or words of similar meaning or appearances to any of these words, whether alone or as part of another word.

Passengers

13. The proprietor shall not permit the vehicle to be used to carry a greater number of passengers than the number prescribed in the licence.
14. The proprietor shall allow only one passenger to use any single seat
15. A baby carried by a passenger is classed as another passenger.

Licences

16. The proprietor shall deposit the vehicle licence issued by the Council with the private hire operator for whom the vehicle is being issued during the time it is so used for that operator.

Cheques

17. A licence in respect of which the licence fee has been paid by cheque shall not be effective until the cheque has been cleared.

Change of Address

18. The proprietor shall notify the Council in writing of any change in his/her address within 7 days of such changes taking place.

Touting etc.

19. The proprietor shall not:-
- a) tout or solicit on a road or other public place any person to hire or be carried for hire in any private hire vehicle, or
 - b) cause or procure any other person to tout or solicit on a road or other public place any person to hire or be carried for hire in any private hire vehicle.

Drivers

20. The proprietor shall not cause or procure or permit any person who is not the holder of a current private hire driver licence issued by the Council to drive the private hire vehicle.

First Aid Kits

- 21 A First-Aid kit must be carried in the vehicle although there is no legal requirement for drivers to administer first-aid. The first-aid kit may be kept elsewhere in the vehicle, other than within easy reach of the driver. If this is the case, then a notice must be displayed in a prominent place, detailing where the first-aid kit can be found. If the first-aid kit is kept within a compartment, then a prominent notice must also be displayed on the door or cover of that compartment.

Roof signs

- 22 The vehicle may carry an internally illuminated roof sign. The sign may bear the name of the proprietor and/or the telephone number of the firm but not the word 'taxi' or 'cab'.

To comply with lighting regulations no white may be shown to the rear and no red light may be shown to the front.

Advertisements

- 23 No signs, notices, advertisements, plates, marks, numbers, letters, figures, symbols, emblems or devices whatsoever shall be displayed on, in or from the vehicle except as may be required or permitted by these conditions. The proprietor may display the company name and contact details.