

CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO TAXI DRIVERS' LICENCES

1. The driver of a taxi shall at all times while he/she is acting as such have with him/her the Taxi Driver's Licence and Badge of Identification issued by the Licensing Authority and shall exhibit such Licence on demand to any passenger, Constable or authorised officer of the Licensing Authority when required to do so. The Badge of Identification issued by the Licensing Authority shall include a recent photograph showing a true likeness of the driver, the driver's name and the date on which the Licence expires. He/she shall display his/her Badge of Identification at all times while so acting conspicuously on the outer front, upper portion of his/her outermost garment with the inscribed side of the Badge clearly visible.
2. The driver of a taxi shall NOT:-
 - a. permit any other person to use his/her Badge of Identification;
 - b. wilfully damage his/her Badge of Identification;
 - c. give, transfer, sell or otherwise dispose of his/her Badge of Identification.
3. The driver of a taxi shall report the loss of his/her Badge of Identification to the Licensing Authority within two working days of the loss and shall obtain a replacement Badge from the Licensing Authority. For the avoidance of doubt any driver seeking a replacement Badge shall furnish the Authority with an up-to-date passport photograph and shall pay the appropriate fee for the replacement Badge.
4. The holder of a Taxi Driver's Licence shall surrender his/her Licence and Badge of Identification to the Licensing Authority within seven days of leaving the trade or of the expiry, suspension, forfeiture, revocation or surrender of his/her Taxi Driver's Licence.
5. The driver of a taxi shall surrender, for replacement, to the Licensing Authority a Badge of Identification, the inscription or photograph on which has become in whole or in part illegible or defaced as the case may be.
6. The driver of a taxi shall be bound to fulfil or cause to be fulfilled at the time and location specified an engagement to hire his/her taxi which he/she has accepted, unless prevented by sufficient cause.
7. The driver of a taxi shall operate on shared hire only with the consent of the first hirer or passenger even if there is displayed on the taxi a sign or other thing approved by the Licensing Authority indicating that the taxi is available for shared hire; but he/she shall not be required to operate on a shared hire if no such sign or other thing is displayed on the taxi at the time of the initial hiring.

8. The driver of a taxi which is on exclusive hire may not under any circumstances pick up or convey another passenger without the consent of the original hirer(s) or passenger(s).
9. The driver of a taxi shall not at any time convey in the taxi more than the number of passengers the taxi is licensed to carry.
10. The driver of a taxi which has been hired on exclusive hire shall drive to the destination by the shortest practicable route unless otherwise instructed by the hirer. The driver of a taxi which has been hired on shared hire shall take the shortest practicable route which will serve the destinations of all the passengers whom he/she is carrying at any one time.
11. The driver of a taxi not being used as a taxi-bus shall if the cost of the journey is not regulated by a Licensing Authority fare structure inform the hirer(s) or passenger(s) before the journey commences (a) that the fare is not so regulated; and (b) of the cost or method of calculating the cost of the proposed journey.
12. The driver of a taxi shall ensure that any taximeter fitted in the taxi in his/her charge shall be operated at all times within the Licensed Area and in accordance with the detailed requirements imposed by the Licensing Authority.
13. The driver of a taxi shall from time to time and at least once in each day in which he/she uses the taxi inspect the seals on the taximeter to ensure that they are intact. On discovering that the seals have become broken or damaged or that the taximeter has ceased to function correctly, the driver of a taxi shall immediately withdraw the vehicle from service.
14. Subject to conditions 15 and 16 below, the driver of a taxi shall not refuse to drive a passenger to any place within the Licensed Area.
15. The driver of a taxi may decline to accept a further passenger on the grounds that his/her intended destination could not be served without an excessive or unreasonable addition to the journey distance of the existing passenger or passengers, or that the further passenger's luggage cannot be accommodated safely within the luggage compartment of the taxi.
16. The driver of a taxi need not convey any hirer or passenger who is drunk or otherwise not in a fit and proper state to be carried, or whose condition of clothing is offensive or likely to cause damage to the interior of the taxi, or who refuses to cease smoking in the taxi when requested to do so by the driver, or is accompanied by an animal (other than a guide dog) which is likely to damage or soil the interior of the taxi, or otherwise at his/her discretion.
17. Where the taxi has been hired – (a) by or for a disabled person who is accompanied by a guide dog, a hearing dog or an assistance dog of that person;

- or (b) by a person who wishes such a disabled person to accompany that person in the taxi, the driver of the taxi shall carry the disabled person's dog and allow it to remain with the disabled person and shall not make any additional charge for doing so, unless the driver of the taxi has been granted a Notice of Exemption from this requirement.
18. The driver of a taxi shall not refuse to carry luggage in his/her taxi providing that the said luggage can be accommodated safely within the luggage compartment of the taxi.
 19. The driver of a taxi shall give such assistance as he/she is able to give with loading and unloading passengers and luggage when required to do so but he/she shall not be required to leave the immediate proximity of the taxi in doing so.
 20. The driver of a taxi at the end of his/her shift shall search the taxi of which he/she is in charge for any property which may have been left therein. Any property found by the driver shall, within 24 hours, be returned to the owner of the property if known or such property shall be handed in by the driver to any Police Station.
 21. The driver of a taxi whilst so acting must at all times be strictly sober, clean and tidy in his/her person and clothing, shall conduct himself/herself in a proper and civil manner and shall not smoke.
 22. The driver of a taxi shall not knowingly allow the taxi in his/her charge to be used for illegal or immoral purposes, permit to be carried in the taxi in his/her charge any article of a dirty, filthy or noxious nature or an explosive or dangerous nature, or permit to be carried in the taxi in his/her charge any person who has vermin on his/her person.
 23. The driver of a taxi shall ensure that the taxi, including all bodywork, upholstery and fittings, is in a safe and serviceable condition and subject to prevailing conditions, is in a clean condition.
 24. The driver, if driving a private hire car shall return to his/her operating base after each hire, unless en-route to another, pre-arranged hire.
 25. The driver of a taxi, when a taxi is hired or standing for hire, shall either sit in the driving seat of the taxi or stand in the immediate proximity thereto except during any period he/she may be absent to announce the arrival of his taxi to the hirer or when assisting the hirer to enter or leave the taxi or to load or unload luggage or for any other necessary purpose.
 26. The driver of a taxi, while he/she is in charge of the taxi shall not park, or stop his/her taxi, nor canvass or importune for employment within 50 metres of any designated taxi stance.

27. All drivers of taxis arriving at an appointed taxi stance shall take their stations on such stance from front to rear in order of their arrival and hires will be accepted by the drivers in that order except when an intending hirer wishes to engage a specific taxi or its driver in which case the engagement may be accepted in the order indicated by the intending hirer, but the onus of proving the hirer's wishes shall be on the driver of the taxi apparently chosen out of the order. Unless the Licensing Authority makes specific arrangement for particular stances, where a taxi is driven off a stance the driver of the taxi immediately behind shall draw up his/her vehicle to take the place vacated and the taxi drivers on the stance behind shall draw up their vehicles in like manner.
 28. The driver of a taxi which is being operated on shared hire may wait at a stance only for such time as is reasonably required to ascertain whether there are any prospective further passengers (in addition to an existing passenger or existing passengers) in the immediate vicinity of the stance at that time who wish to participate in the shared hire of the taxi; but if no further such passengers are found there and then, the driver shall immediately drive his/her taxi off the stance.
 29. All vehicles may be fitted with some form of in-car communication whether two-way radio, car phone or otherwise. For the avoidance of doubt no person shall, should any vehicle be fitted with citizens band radio (CB) use the CB radio for the purpose of disclosing the name, address, destination or other details of passengers or potential passengers and any person who does disclose these details over an open radio shall be in breach of these regulations.
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DEFINITIONS:-

“Exclusive” as applied to the hire of a taxi/private hire car, means that a single fare is payable by any one passenger for the whole hire of the taxi/private hire car, whether or not more than one passenger is carried; and “Exclusive Hire” shall be construed accordingly.

“Shared” as applied to the hire of a taxi/private hire car, means that each passenger is carried at a separate fare, payable to the driver; and “Shared Hire” shall be construed accordingly.

“Taxi-bus” means a taxi/private hire car which is being used, under a Special Licence granted under Section 12 of the Transport Act 1985, to provide a local service which is or requires to be registered under Part I of that Act, has been previously advertised and which has a destination and route which are not entirely at the discretion of the passengers.