CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO PRIVATE HIRE CAR DRIVER'S LICENCES

1. The driver of a private hire car shall at all times while he/she is acting as such have with him/her the Private Hire Car 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 private hire car 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 private hire car 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 Private Hire Car 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 Private Hire Car Driver's Licence.

5. The driver of a private hire car 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 private hire car shall be bound to fulfil or cause to be fulfilled at the time and location specified an engagement to hire his/her private hire car which he/she has accepted, unless prevented by sufficient cause.

7. The driver of a private hire car which has been hired may not under any circumstances pick up or convey another passenger without the consent of the original hirer(s) or passenger(s).

8. The driver of a private hire car shall not at any time convey in the private hire car more than the number of passengers the private hire car is licensed to carry.

9. The driver of a private hire car 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 private hire car 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.

10. The driver of a private hire car 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.

11. The driver of a private hire car shall ensure that any taximeter fitted in the private hire car 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.

12. The driver of a private hire car shall from time to time and at least once in each day in which he/she uses the private hire car 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 private hire car shall immediately withdraw the vehicle from service.

13. Subject to condition 14 below, the driver of a private hire car shall not refuse to drive a passenger to any place within the Licensed Area.

14. The driver of a private hire car 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 private hire car, or who refuses to cease smoking in the private hire car 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 private hire car, or otherwise at his/her discretion.

15. Where the private hire car 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 private hire car, the driver of the private hire car 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 private hire car has been granted a Notice of Exemption from this requirement.

16. The driver of a private hire car while he/she is in charge of his/her private hire car shall not canvass or importune for employment in any street or other public place.

17. The driver of a private hire car shall not refuse to carry luggage in his/her private hire car providing that the said luggage can be accommodated safely within the luggage compartment of the private hire car.

18. The driver of a private hire car 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 private hire car in doing so.

19. The driver of a private hire car at the end of his/her shift shall search the private hire car 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.

20. The driver of a private hire car 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.

21. The driver of a private hire car shall not knowingly allow the private hire car in his/her charge to be used for illegal or immoral purposes, permit to be carried in the private hire car 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 private hire car in his/her charge any person who has vermin on his person.

22. The driver of a private hire car shall ensure that the private hire car including all bodywork, upholstery and fittings, is in a safe and serviceable condition and, subject to prevailing conditions, is in a clean condition.

23. The driver of a private hire car shall return to his/her operating base after each hire, unless en-route to another, pre-arranged hire.

24. 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.