CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO TAXI LICENCES

1. The number of passengers which the vehicle shall be permitted to carry shall not exceed the number specified in the Licence.

2. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall ensure that the taxi, including all bodywork, upholstery and fittings is in a safe and serviceable condition and, subject to prevailing road conditions, is in a clean and tidy condition.

3. On receiving the requisite notice in writing from the Licensing Authority, the holder of a Taxi Licence shall produce his or her taxi for examination at such time and place as may be reasonably required by the Licensing Authority. Thereafter the taxi will be required to pass an annual inspection. Should the vehicle fail the inspection the Vehicle Inspector shall have authority to remove the plate from the vehicle. Only one re-test shall be permitted with the cost to be borne by the operator.

4. The holder of a Taxi Licence, when the taxi has been materially damaged in a vehicular accident or by any other means shall report the damage to the Licensing Authority within 48 hours, and if the taxi is roadworthy he shall present it for examination on a date to be specified by the Licensing Authority. It shall be at the discretion of the vehicle examiner if he considers the taxi unroadworthy, to issue an instruction that the taxi shall not be used until the repairs have been completed and the taxi re-examined in which case the holder of the Taxi Licence must apply to the Licensing Authority to re-test the vehicle and submit the appropriate fee.

As soon as the repairs to the taxi have been completed (which shall be within a period of 28 days, save in exceptional circumstances) the taxi shall be re-examined. In the event that the repairs cannot be completed within the period specified above, the licenceholder shall apply in writing to the Licensing Authority for an extension thereto.

5. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall not ask a driver of a taxi to do anything which would result in the driver contravening any law or committing a breach of the conditions attached to the grant of the driver’s Licence.

6. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall keep an up-to-date list of the names and addresses of all taxi drivers employed by him and shall produce this list on request to a duly authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or to a Constable at all reasonable times. In addition the holder of a Taxi Licence must advise the Licensing Authority of all changes to the list within 7 days of the change being made.

7. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall be bound to fulfil or cause to be fulfilled at the time and location specified an engagement to hire his taxi which he has accepted unless prevented by sufficient cause.

8. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall hold in his own name the requisite Vehicle Registration Document and the Certificate of Insurance in relation to the taxi required by Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1972; where more than one name appears on the Taxi Licence the Vehicle Registration Document and the Certificate of Insurance shall be in the name of at least one of those names. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall exhibit to the Licensing Authority not later than the initial date of cover thereunder, the Certificate of Insurance in relation to the use of the vehicle as a taxi on and after that date. If at any time the insurance cover expires prior to the expiry of the Licence, the
licensureholder shall require to exhibit the insurance cover as aforesaid. Any change of insurer or insurance cover, must be intimated to the Licensing Authority within 2 working days of the change being made.

9. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall ensure that while the vehicle is in use as a taxi any plates or other things which have been issued by the Licensing Authority for the purpose of indicating that the vehicle is a taxi are secured at all times and fixed to the outside of the licensed vehicle, at the rear off-side and in a position approved by an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority.

10. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall not obliterate or deface any plate or other thing which has been issued by the Licensing Authority for the purpose of indicating that the vehicle is a taxi and which is fixed to the taxi. If any such plate or other thing becomes obliterated or defaced so as not to be distinctly visible or legible or if any such plate or other thing is lost, the holder of the Taxi Licence shall report this to the Licensing Authority as soon as practicable in order to obtain from the Licensing Authority a replacement plate or other thing. If the vehicle licensed as a taxi ceases to be used in the trade or the Taxi Licence expires, is forfeited, suspended or revoked, any plate or other thing which has been issued by the Licensing Authority for the purpose of indicating that the vehicle is a taxi shall forthwith be returned to the Licensing Authority or to a Constable on his request.

11. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall obtain from the Licensing Authority notices detailing the approved maximum taxi fares and charges appropriate to exclusive or to shared hire of the taxi and shall display the notice or notices as appropriate in the passenger compartment of the taxi in such a position that it or they will be readily visible to the passengers being carried, which notice or notices shall incorporate a provision to the effect that the taxi may be operated on shared hire only with the consent of the first hirer or passenger; and (subject to condition 22 below, no other notice or notices of fares and charges shall be displayed).

12. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall, if the cost of the journey is not regulated by a Licensing Authority fare structure, and if the taxi is not being used as taxi-bus, take steps to ensure that any potential hirer of his taxi is informed, prior to acceptance of the hire (a) that the fare is not so regulated; and (b) the cost or method of calculating the proposed journey.

13. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall not display on his taxi any advertisement, or any signs for the purpose of advertising its services as a taxi other than those approved by the Licensing Authority.

14. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall display upon the roof of his taxi a sign of a type approved by the Licensing Authority for the purpose of identifying the vehicle as a taxi, and while the taxi is available for shared hire he shall display on the taxi in a position approved by the Licensing Authority a sign of a type approved by the Licensing Authority for the purpose of indicating that the taxi is available for shared hire.

15. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall at any time when the taxi is being used as a taxi-bus, cause to be displayed on the taxi in such a position and in such a form as may be prescribed by the Licensing Authority, a notice which indicates that the taxi is being used as a taxi-bus.
16. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall have affixed to the taxi a taximeter which has been approved by the Licensing Authority as appropriate to the type of hire (whether exclusive or shared) for which the taxi is available or on which it is engaged. This condition shall not apply to any taxi while it is in use as a taxi-bus.

17. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall not use or cause or permit to be used on a taxi a road wheel or tyre of a different circumference from that for which the taximeter affixed to the taxi was designed, geared and has been tested and approved by the Licensing Authority.

18. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall only use a taximeter which has been stamped or sealed by the Licensing Authority after testing and approval as to distance and time in accordance with the approved taxi fares and charges. Once a taximeter is fitted to his taxi, he shall not tamper with the taximeter or break or tamper with any seal or stamp on such taximeter or any attachment fixed thereto by the manufacturer or Licensing Authority except to remove the taximeter for repair or replacement. Should the seal be broken or the taximeter repaired or replaced, the taximeter shall be re-tested and passed by or on behalf of the Licensing Authority before being used again.

19. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall ensure that the taximeter is fitted to his taxi in a position approved by the Licensing Authority.

20. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall not knowingly operate the taxi or cause or permit it to be operated other than as a taxi-bus, while the seals affixed to any taximeter and, where so affixed, to the vehicle, are broken or detached.

21. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall not knowingly use or cause or permit to be used a taximeter which is in any way defective.

22. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall at any time when the taxi is being used as a taxi-bus cause to be displayed in the taxi in such a position and in such a form as may be prescribed by the Licensing Authority so that it is clearly legible to passengers a fare table containing sufficient information to enable a passenger to ascertain the fare for his journey or the manner in which the fare is calculated.

23. The holder of a Taxi Licence must carry in suitable fasteners in his taxi a fire extinguisher of a type and in a position approved by the Licensing Authority and must carry a First Aid Kit in a suitable container in his taxi, of a type and in a position approved by the Licensing Authority.

24. When a taxi is withdrawn from service by an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a Constable in accordance with Section 11 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 he shall affix a label bearing (a) the words “this hire car is meantime certified unfit for public use” and (b) the date of withdrawal in a position within the passenger compartment of the taxi so that it is readily visible to intending passengers. Such a label shall have the effect of suspending the Licence and only an authorised officer of the Licensing Authority may permit the removal of the label. Any person who attempts to remove or deface the said label shall be guilty of a breach of these conditions and liable to prosecution.
25. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall not obstruct a duly authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a Constable in the performance of any of his duties under these conditions.

26. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall comply with all instructions or directions of a duly authorised officer of the Licensing Authority or a Constable in relation to these conditions and shall give him all information he may reasonable require in the discharge of his duties.

27. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall not hire his vehicle to the holder of a Taxi Driver’s Licence, or to any other person. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall not lend his vehicle to the holder of a Taxi Driver’s Licence or to any other person save for domestic purposes, except with the written authority of the Licensing Authority. For the avoidance of doubt there shall be nothing to prevent the holder of a Taxi Licence from employing the holder of a Taxi Driver’s Licence to drive the licensed taxi.

28. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall ensure that, while the vehicle is not in use as a taxi, any plates, or other things which have been issued by the Licensing Authority for the purpose of indicating that the vehicle is a taxi, shall be covered or obscured.

29. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall ensure that, while the vehicle is not in use as a taxi, any roof sign indicating that the vehicle is a taxi, shall be removed, covered or obscured.

30. The holder of a Taxi Licence shall surrender his Licence for a taxi within 7 days of the vehicle ceasing to be used in the trade or of the expiry, suspension, forfeiture or revocation of the Licence.

DEFINITIONS:-

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

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

“taxi-bus” means a taxi 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.