

Throughout these conditions “the Council” means Halton Borough Council

- “the holder” means the holder of the Licence issued by the Council
- “Council Solicitor” means Operational Director Legal, Organisational Development and Human Resources

1 Single Status

This Licence permits the holder to drive a licensed hackney carriage vehicle as well as a licensed private hire vehicle.

The holder shall comply fully with the rules and regulations applicable with the type of vehicle being driven at any given time. For example, when driving a licensed private hire vehicle the holder SHALL NOT ply for hire.

2 Wearing and Displaying Identity Cards (Badge)

The holder will be provided with two identity cards. The first identity card shall be worn by the driver in a conspicuous position at all times when driving. The second identity card shall be displayed at all times on the dash board of any licensed hackney carriage or private hire vehicle being driven by the holder (unless the vehicle is fitted with a passenger compartment partition in which case the identity card shall be displayed on the partition).

3 Dress Code

While driving a licensed hackney carriage or private hire vehicle the holder shall present himself or herself in a clean and tidy condition at all times.

The minimum standard of dress shall be as follows:

For men a short sleeved shirt with sleeves not less than 11cm (4.5” approx.).

Trousers and shorts are acceptable but shorts must be knee-length tailored shorts.

Footwear shall be appropriate for driving vehicles (e.g. no flip-flops or loose sandals).

For women as for men except that skirts, dresses and blouses may be worn.

4 Notifying Changes in Medical Condition

The licence holder must notify the Council **in writing without undue delay** of becoming aware of any change in medical condition which may affect the continued fitness to drive in accordance with the Council’s current medical standards.

5 Driving When Not Medically Fit

The holder shall not drive any licensed hackney carriage or private hire vehicle at any time during which his or her medical condition falls below the medical standard prescribed by the Council.

6 Duty to Disclose Important Information

The holder shall where possible, immediately disclose to the Council’s Taxi Licensing Manager in writing (to include email) details of any of the following circumstances. Where it is not possible to do so immediately, notification of any of the following **MUST** be received within 48 hours:

- Arrest and release (or charged) for any matter
- Convictions by any Court
- Road Traffic Offences whether the DVLA licence is endorsed or not
- Cautions (of any kind including simple and conditional)

Important: Failure by a licence holder to disclose any of the above within 48 hours might be seen as behaviour that questions their honesty and therefore the suitability of the licence holder regardless of the outcome of the initial allegation.

7 Duty to Notify Change of Address

The holder shall give notice in writing to the Council Solicitor of any change of his or her address during the currency of this Licence within 7 days of such change taking place.

8 Delivery of Licence to Vehicle Proprietor

The holder shall give his or her Single Status Driver's Licence to the proprietor of any licensed hackney carriage or private hire vehicle being driven by the holder for retention by the proprietor while the holder is driving such vehicle.

9 Deposit of Copy of Licence with Operator

The holder shall give a copy of his or her Single Status Driver's Licence for retention by the operator of the radio system from which the holder is working.

10 Duty to Notify Change of Vehicle

The holder shall give notice in writing to the Council Solicitor of any change of licensed vehicle (if any) used by the holder during the currency of this licence before such change taking place. The Council's standard Vehicle Consent Form shall be used for this purpose.

11 Deposit of Copy Insurance Certificate with Operator

The holder shall give a copy of the current certificate of insurance for any licensed hackney carriage and/or private hire vehicle to be driven by the holder for retention by the operator (if any) of the radio system from which the holder is working.

12 Duty to Notify Change of Operator

The holder shall give notice in writing to the Council Solicitor of any change of operator (if any) used by the holder during the currency of this licence within 7 days of such change taking place. The Council's standard System Operator Form shall be used for this purpose.

13 Application of Bye-laws when driving hackney carriage vehicles

When driving a licensed hackney carriage vehicle the holder shall comply fully with all bye-laws relating to hackney carriages which are for the time being in force within the Borough.

14 Application of Bye-laws When Driving Private Hire Vehicles

When driving a private hire vehicle the holder shall comply with the hackney carriage bye-laws listed below (which were confirmed by the Secretary of State and came into operation on 8th August 1975) as if references therein to a "hackney carriage" were deemed to be references instead to a "private hire vehicle" and as if all references to "standing or plying for hire" were deemed instead to be references to "driving in the course of business":

Bye-laws numbered -

8 - civil behaviour

10 - use of shortest routes

12 - helping with luggage

15 - use of vehicle for immoral purposes etc.

16 - passengers in excess of licensed number

15 Guide Dogs etc

- The holder when driving any private hire vehicle shall at the request of any passenger carry a guide dog hearing dog or other assistance dog belonging to a passenger free of charge unless the driver has a proven medical condition that would preclude such action and which has been previously registered by the Council Solicitor.
- The holder when driving any hackney carriage vehicle shall comply with the requirements relating to carrying guide dogs or other assistance dogs under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (Taxis) (Carrying of Dogs etc) (England and Wales) Regulations 2000.

16 Assistance to Passengers

- The holder shall afford reasonable assistance to all passengers to enable them to get to and from the entrance of any building, station or place at which he may take up or set down such passengers unless the holder has a proven medical condition that would preclude such action and which has been previously registered by the Council Solicitor. (In addition to this requirement the holder is reminded of their obligations in respect of luggage).
- Passengers using wheelchairs must not be discriminated against and must be carried on request provided that in the case of powered wheelchairs this requirement shall only apply to vehicles which are physically capable of accommodating powered wheelchairs.
- Wheelchairs belonging to a passenger shall be carried free of charge.

17 Obstruction and Failure to Comply with Requirements

The holder shall take note that it is an offence for any person to:

- Wilfully obstruct an Authorised Officer of the Council or a Constable acting in pursuance of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 or the Town Police Clauses Act 1847;
- Fail to comply with any requirements properly made by such Officer or Constable;
- (Without reasonable cause) fail to give such an Officer or Constable any other assistance or information which may be required.

18 Applications After Expiry of Licences

- Where a holder purports to renew a licence after the expiry of the licence this shall not be allowed. In these circumstances the holder shall be treated as a new applicant and shall comply with all the preconditions which are applicable to any new applicant.
- Where the holder applies to renew a licence at least 6 weeks before the expiry of the licence but the licence renewal application is not renewed before the expiry of the licence the licence will be renewed on a temporary licence basis pending the completion of the renewal.
- Where the holder applies to renew the licence less than 6 weeks before the expiry of the licence and the licence is not completed by the renewal date no temporary licence shall be issued and no renewal is allowed. When the application is completed "the renewal" shall be issued from the date of completion and shall extend to the expiry of the existing licence.

19 Suspension, Revocation and Refusal to Renew Licence

The Council may suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a Licence on the grounds: -

(a) that the holder has since the grant of the Licence -

(i) been convicted of an offence involving dishonesty, indecency or violence; or

(ii) been convicted of an offence or has failed to comply with the provisions of the Town Police

Clauses Act 1847 or Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976;

(b) any other reasonable cause.

20 Return of Identity Cards etc

If this licence is suspended, revoked or not renewed the holder shall forthwith return it to the Council together with the identity cards issued with this licence.

21 Spare Tyre/Space Saver Tyre

When driving a licensed Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicle equipped with a space saver tyre the holder must be aware of and adhere to the VOSA requirements for the use of space saver tyres.

22 Electronic Cigarettes

When in a licensed Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicle the holder must not smoke any electronic cigarette.

The holder must not permit any passenger to smoke any electronic cigarette in any licensed Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicle being driven by the holder.

23 Council's Discretion

The Council reserves the right to exercise its discretion at any time in connection with any of these conditions.