

Conditions attached to a Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence

1. Only vehicles which conform to the standard specifications for hackney carriages as adopted on 24th November 2009 may be used as a hackney carriage. A copy of which may be obtained from the Director of neighbourhoods, City Hall.
2. Any vehicle licensed as a hackney carriage must conform to the standard specification adopted on the 24th November 2009, and such licence shall only be valid so long as that vehicle continues to hold a current valid Mechanical Test Certificate issued by Norwich City Council or their appointed agent.
3. On initial licensing the age of the vehicle shall not exceed 5 years, from date of first registration with the DVLA.
4. With effect from 1st April 2017, a vehicle licence shall not be renewed if the age of the vehicle exceeds 15 years, from the date of first registration with the DVLA, on the date that the current licence expires.
5. A fully paid up insurance policy in respect of the vehicle, covering passenger risks, (unlimited), must be in force during the currency of the licence.
6. The Director of neighbourhoods must be notified if any alteration is proposed to be made to any part of the vehicle before such alteration is carried out.
7. The vehicle shall be equipped with a satisfactory arrangement for quickly replacing any punctured or damaged tyres and shall in any case carry a roadworthy spare wheel with fitted tyre.

Excerpt from Norwich City Council Byelaws, Regulations and Conditions applicable to Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles, Proprietors, Drivers and Operators

Norwich City Council Byelaws with respect to Hackney Carriage Proprietors and Drivers

Provisions regulating the manner in which the number of each hackney carriage corresponding with the number of it's licence shall be displayed

2. (a) The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the number of the licence granted to him/her in respect of the carriage to be legibly painted or marked on the outside and inside of the carriage or on plates affixed thereto.
- (b) A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall:-
 - (i) not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer any such number to be concealed from public view while the carriage is standing or plying for hire;
 - (ii) not cause or permit the carriage to stand or ply for hire with any such painting, marking or plate, so defaced that any figure or material particular is illegible.

Provisions regulating how hackney carriages are to be furnished or provided

3. The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall:-
 - (a) provide sufficient means by which any person in the carriage may communicate with the driver;
 - (b) cause the roof to be kept water-tight;
 - (c) provide any necessary windows and a means of opening and closing not less than one window on each side;
 - (d) cause the seats to be properly cushioned or covered;
 - (e) cause the floor to be provided with a proper carpet, mat or other suitable covering;
 - (f) cause the fittings and furniture generally to be kept in a clean condition, well maintained and in every way fit for public service;
 - (g) provide means for securing luggage if the carriage is so constructed as to carry luggage;
 - (h) provide an efficient fire extinguisher, which shall be carried in such a position as to be readily available for use;

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- (i) provide at least two doors for the use of persons conveyed in such carriage and a separate means of ingress and egress for the driver.
4. The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the same to be provided with a taximeter so constructed, attached and maintained as to comply with the following requirements, that is to say:-
- (a) The taximeter shall be fitted with a key, flag or other device, the operation of which will bring the machinery of the taximeter into action and cause the word "HIRED" to appear on the face on the taximeter;
 - (b) such key, flag, or other device shall be capable of being locked in such a position that the machinery of the taximeter is not in action and that no fare is recorded on the face of the taximeter;
 - (c) when the machinery of the taximeter is in action, there shall be recorded on the face of the taximeter, in clearly legible figures, a fare not exceeding the rate of fare which the proprietor or driver is entitled to demand and take for the hire of the carriage by time and distance, in pursuance of the tariff fixed by the Council in that behalf;
 - (d) the word "fare" shall be printed on the face of the taximeter in plain letters so as clearly to apply to the fare recorded thereon;
 - (e) the taximeter shall be so placed that all letters and figures on the face thereof are at all times plainly visible to any person being conveyed in the carriage, and for that purpose the letters and figures shall be capable of being suitably illuminated during any period of hiring;
 - (f) the taximeter and all fittings thereof shall be so affixed to the carriage with seals or other appliances that it shall not be practicable for any person to tamper with them except by breaking, damaging or permanently displacing the seals or other appliances.

Provisions regulating the conduct of the proprietors and drivers of hackney carriages plying within the district in their several employments, and determining whether such drivers shall wear any and what badges.

5. The driver of a hackney carriage provided with a taximeter shall:-
- (a) when standing or plying for hire, keep the key, flag or other device fitted in pursuance of the byelaw in that behalf, locked in the position in which no fare is recorded on the face of the taximeter;
 - (b) before beginning a journey for which a fare is charged for distance and time, bring the machinery of the taximeter into action by moving the said key, flag or other device so that the word 'HIRED' is legible on the face of the taximeter, and keep the machinery of the taximeter in action until the termination of the hiring;

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- (c) cause the dial of the taximeter to be kept properly illuminated throughout any part of a hiring which is during the hours of darkness, this being the time between half-an-hour after sunset to half-an-hour before sunrise, and also at any other time at the request of the hirer.
6. A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not tamper with or permit any person to tamper with any taximeter with which the carriage is provided, with the fittings thereof, or with the seals affixed thereto.
7. The driver of a hackney carriage shall, when plying for hire in any street and not actually hired:-
- (a) proceed with reasonable speed to one of the stands fixed by the Council in that behalf;
 - (b) if the stand at the time of his/her arrival is occupied by the full number of carriages authorised to occupy it, proceed to another stand;
 - (c) on arriving at a stand not already occupied by the full number of carriages authorised to occupy it station the carriage immediately behind the carriage or carriages on the stand, and so as to face in the same direction;
 - (d) from time to time when any other carriage immediately in front is driven off or moved forward, cause his/her carriage to be moved forward so as to fill the place previously occupied by the carriage driven off or moved forward.
8. A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage, when standing or plying for hire, shall not, by calling out or otherwise, importune any person to hire such carriage and shall not make use of the services of any other person for the purpose.
9. The driver of a hackney carriage shall behave in a civil and orderly manner and shall take all reasonable precaution to ensure the safety of persons conveyed in or entering or alighting from the vehicle.
10. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage, who has agreed or has been hired to be in attendance with the carriage at an appointed time and place shall, unless delayed or prevented by some sufficient cause, punctually attend with such carriage at such appointed time and place.
11. (a) A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not convey or permit to be conveyed in such carriage, any greater number of persons than the number of persons specified on the plate affixed to the outside of the carriage, provided however that for this purpose two children below the age of ten years may be counted as one person insofar as the rear seating only is concerned.

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- (b) The driver shall not allow there to be conveyed in the front of a hackney carriage vehicle:-
 - (i) any child below the age of ten years; or
 - (ii) more than one person above that age.
- 12. If a badge has been provided by the Council and delivered to the driver of a hackney carriage, he/she shall, when standing or plying for hire and when hired, wear that badge in such position and manner as to be plainly visible.
- 13. The driver of a hackney carriage, so constructed as to carry luggage shall, when requested by any person hiring or seeking to hire the carriage:-
 - (a) convey a reasonable quantity of luggage;
 - (b) afford reasonable assistance in loading and unloading;
 - (c) afford reasonable assistance in removing itto or from the entrance of any building, station or place at which he/she may take up or set down such person.
- 14. The driver of a hackney carriage shall:-
 - (a) not without the express consent of the hirer, play any radio or in-car sound equipment other than for the purpose of radio communication in connection with the operation of the business of the vehicle and this to be in such manner as not to cause annoyance to anyone.
 - (b) not at any time when driving for hire, smoke tobacco or any other like substance;
 - (c) if requested by the hirer of a hackney carriage provide him/her with a written receipt for the fare paid;
 - (d) not convey in a hackney carriage any animal belonging to or in the custody of him/herself or the proprietor or operator of the vehicle.

Rates or fares to be paid for hackney carriages within the district, and securing the due publication of such fares

- 15. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall be entitled to demand and take for hire of the carriage the rate or fare prescribed by the Council, the rate or fare being calculated by time and distance unless the hirer expresses at the commencement of the hiring his/her desire to engage by time only. Provided always that where a hackney carriage shall be hired by time and distance the proprietor or driver thereof shall not be entitled to demand and take a fare greater than that recorded on the face of the taximeter, save for any extra charges authorised by the Council which it may not be possible to record on the face of the taximeter.
- 16. (a) The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause a statement of the fares fixed by the Council in that behalf to be exhibited inside the carriage, in clearly distinguishable letters and figures.

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- (b) The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage bearing a statement of fares, in accordance with this byelaw, shall not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer the letters or figures in the statement to be concealed or rendered illegible at any time while the carriage is plying or being used for hire.

Provision securing the safe custody and re-delivery of any property accidentally left in any hackney carriages

17. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall, immediately after the termination of any hiring, or as soon as practicable thereafter, carefully search the carriage for any property which may have been accidentally left therein.
18. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall, if any property accidentally left therein by any person who may have been conveyed in the carriage, be found by or handed to him/her carry it as soon as possible, and in any event within 48 hours, if not sooner claimed by, or on behalf of, its owner, to a Police Station in the district and leave it in the custody of the officer in charge on his/her giving a receipt for it.
19. Every proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage who shall, knowingly convey in the carriage the dead body of any person shall, immediately thereafter, notify the fact to the Chief Environmental Health Officer of the Council.

Penalties

20. Every person who shall offend against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds and in the case of a continuing offence to a further fine not exceeding five pounds for each day during which the offence continues after conviction thereof.

LICENSED HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS PLEASE NOTE

The Norwich City Council Drivers Licence issued to persons authorised to drive hackney carriages is a dual licence, that authorises the holder to also drive Norwich city council licensed private hire vehicles. Therefore the conditions detailed in the section of this document entitled 'CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO A CITY OF NORWICH DRIVER'S LICENCE WITH REGARD TO PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES' also apply.

Where the condition applies specifically to the driving of a private hire vehicle, then it would only apply when driving said vehicle. Where a condition is not specific to the driving of a particular vehicle, such as condition 12. which relates to informing the council of convictions, then it would apply at all times.

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The Green Book – January 2020

Summary of Main Provisions of the Town and Police Clauses Act 1847, applicable to Hackney Carriage Drivers

- S.46 Driver not to act without licence.
- S.50 Council may revoke licence on second conviction.
- S.52 Plying for hire without plate attached.
- S.53 Refusing to drive without reasonable excuse.
- S.54 Offence to demand more than sum agreed.
- S.55 Agreement to pay more than legal sum not binding.
- S.57 Offence of overcharging.
- S.58 Vehicle may be shared only with consent of hirer.
- S.61 Vehicle not to be left unattended.
- S.66 Unpaid fare may be recovered in County Court.
- S.68 Council may make byelaws.

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

S. 61 Suspension and revocation of drivers' licences.

- (1) Council may suspend, revoke or refuse to renew licence on reasonable cause.