

Appendix M (from Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy 2016)

Private Hire Licensing – Private Hire Vehicle Conditions

1.0 For general conditions with regard private hire vehicles please see Appendix A.

2.0 METERS

2.1 A private hire vehicle may be fitted with a fare meter.

2.2 The driver or operator of a private hire vehicle shall make their own agreement with the hirer as to the fare for a particular journey.

2.3 If a meter is fitted, it shall be positioned and illuminated so that the face is plainly visible at all times to the person being conveyed.

2.1 A Licensing Officer will test and seal the meter. Any tampering with the seal or the meter constitutes an offence. Where any seal becomes broken or damaged, for whatever reason, the owner or operator must immediately inform the Licensing Office, which will arrange for the meter to be re-tested and sealed.

3.0 VEHICLE MARKINGS

3.1 All private hire vehicles must be fitted with windscreen sun-strips, with the words "Private Hire" displayed in the centre of the strip. The company name and telephone number may also be displayed. All lettering shall be not less than 8 cm and no more than 10 cm.

3.2 Sun-strips on the rear windscreen are permissible but not compulsory.

3.3 Sun-strips should be positioned so as not to obscure the forward vision of the driver.

3.4 Roof markings are not compulsory, but if used should be mounted securely and placed from front to rear of the vehicle. The sign should be illuminated, except when passengers are being carried, and have identical wording on each side.

3.5 Roof signs should signify "Advanced Bookings Only" and may be followed by the Company name and telephone number. Any such signs should be no longer than 600 mm, no wider than 200 mm and no higher than 250 mm.

4.0 ADVERTISING

4.1 Advertising is restricted to the name and telephone number of the owner or operator of the private hire vehicle and to the front door panel only. Advertising of other businesses or products or services is not permitted other than advertising internally within a vehicle via TV screens (digital media technology) for which conditions are contained in Appendix A, Section 23.

4.2 The word "taxi", "cab" or "hackney carriage" must not be used.

- 4.3 No alternative words or spellings, such as “Kab”, which would have the effect of leading the public to believe that a vehicle is a hackney carriage available for hire, may be used.

5.0 VEHICLES PLYING FOR HIRE

The driver/operator of a private hire vehicle shall not: -

- (a) Cause or permit the vehicle to stand on a road or public place in such a manner as to suggest it is standing or otherwise plying for hire or that it is a hackney carriage vehicle;
- (b) Cause or procure any other person to tout or solicit, on a road or other public place, any person to hire or be carried for hire in any private hire vehicle;
- (c) Accept an offer for the hire of that vehicle while the driver of that vehicle is on a road or any public place except where such an offer is first communicated to the driver by telephone or by radio telephone fitted to that vehicle;
- (d) Use any hackney carriage stand within the North Devon area;
- (e) Ply for hire or pick up fares on the highway unless previously booked;
- (f) Obstruct any other licensed driver.