

**CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

**DRAFT**

**HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND  
PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS  
CONDITIONS**

## **CONDITIONS RELATING TO PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES**

### **MADE UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976**

#### **Interpretation**

In these conditions:-

- (a) "the Council" means Central Bedfordshire Council
- (b) "Authorised Officer" means the Licensing Officer, Licensing Assistant or other Authorised Officers for the time being of the Council
- (c) "the driver" means the person to whom the Council has granted the hackney carriage or private hire licence to which these conditions refer
- (d) "the vehicle" means the vehicle subject of the hackney carriage or private hire vehicle licence granted by Central Bedfordshire Council.

**CONDITIONS RELATING TO  
HACKNEY CARRIAGE/PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

1. The normal duration of a Licence will be 12 months.
2. The Licence is not transferable.
3. The driver shall, at the request of any authorised Officer of the Council or of any constable, produce for inspection this licence either forthwith or:-
  - (a) in the case of a request by an Authorised Officer of the Council, at the Council's Offices, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford SG17 5TQ or The Council Offices, High Street North, Dunstable, LU6 1LF before the expiration of the period of five days beginning with the day following that on which the request is made;
  - (b) in the case of a request by a constable before the expiration of the period aforesaid at any Police Station which is within the area of the Council and is nominated by the driver when the request is made.
4. The driver must inform the Council within seven days of any motoring or other criminal conviction or caution which has occurred since the granting of this licence.
5. Your attention is drawn to the Council's Criminal Conviction Policy.
6. The driver shall conduct himself towards any person who has hired the vehicle and any other passengers in an orderly, seemly and courteous manner and shall take all reasonable precautions for the safety of persons and luggage conveyed in the vehicle.
7. The driver shall, at all times, unless specifically exempted in writing by the Council, wear in such a position and manner as to be plainly and distinctly visible, a Driver's Badge as issued by the Council whilst licensed to act as a driver of the vehicle.
8. The driver shall pay a fee for a replacement badge in the event of any loss or damage to the badge which renders it unfit for use.
9. The Driver's Badge shall at all times remain the property of the Council and upon the Council suspending, revoking or refusing to renew this Licence the driver shall on demand return the badge to the Council.
10. The driver shall notify the Council in writing of any change of address during the period of licence prior to such change taking place and in any case within 7 days of such change.
11. The driver shall not permit to be conveyed in the vehicle a greater number of persons than that specified in the licence issued.
12. Every driver who has agreed or has been hired to be in attendance with the vehicle at an appointed time and place shall unless delayed or prevented by some sufficient cause, punctually attend with the vehicle.

13. The driver shall not, without reasonable cause, unnecessarily prolong, in distance or in time, a journey for which the vehicle has been hired.
14. If the driver is involved in an accident and is not the proprietor of the vehicle, he shall report, or cause to be reported, to the proprietor details of the accident within 5 days.
15. The driver shall at his or her discretion carry household pets within the vehicle provided that the pet is suitably contained so as not to cause a nuisance.
16. No driver may refuse to carry a guide or hearing dog and other prescribed assistance dogs provided it is accompanied by a fare paying passenger, unless the driver can produce a medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner to the effect that the driver has an allergy to dogs and a certificate of exemption has been issued by the Council. No charge shall be made for the carriage of guide, hearing or other prescribed assistance dogs.
17. Arrangements shall be made by the Council for drivers of Wheelchair Accessible vehicles to receive training in the loading and unloading of wheelchairs and their passengers and also in relation to their wheelchair use. The licences of drivers who refuse such training may be suspended or revoked.
18. The driver when driving a vehicle so constructed as to carry luggage shall when requested by any person who has hired the vehicle:-
  - (a) convey a reasonable quantity of luggage;
  - (b) afford reasonable assistance in loading and unloading;
  - (c) afford reasonable assistance in removing it to or from the entrance of any house, station or place to which he or she may pick up or set down such person.
19. The Licensee shall at the termination of each hiring carefully search the vehicle for any property which may have been accidentally left therein.

If the driver should find, or be handed, any property accidentally left by any person who may have been conveyed in the vehicle it should, if not claimed by or on behalf of its owner, be taken within 24 hours to a Police Station and left in the custody of the Officer in Charge. The driver should obtain a receipt from the Officer in Charge.
20. Any passenger requesting a receipt for any payment made will be provided with a written receipt showing the date, fare paid and be signed by the driver, this shall be in such a form as to identify the company or individual providing the receipt.
21. If the driver has knowingly conveyed in the vehicle the dead body of any person he shall immediately thereafter notify the fact to the Council's Chief Environmental Health Officer.
22. A medical certificate shall be produced within seven days of the request by the Council for such certificate. Medical Certificates are required:
  - Upon first application for a licence;
  - Every five years between the ages of 45 and 64;

- Annually upon attaining the age of 65

**Driver applicants and licence holders with insulin treated diabetes should also submit a letter from their consultant stating that they are fit to drive.**

23. All drivers shall operate strictly within the terms of any licence issued incorporating all of the terms and conditions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, the Hackney Carriage bylaws and other conditions within these conditions but these may not necessarily be exhaustive.
24. **Appeals**
- (i) you may appeal against all or any of these conditions
  - (ii) any appeal must be made within 21 days of grant of Licence
  - (iii) appeals must be made direct to the Magistrates Court.
25. Any requirements of legislation which effects the operations being carried out under the terms of this Licence shall be regarded as if they are conditions of this Licence.
26. The Council reserve the right to vary, delete or waive any of the foregoing conditions.

#### **Private Hire Drivers Only**

27. The Licensee shall not while driving or in charge of a Private Hire Vehicle:-
- (a) tout or solicit on a road or other public place any person to hire or be carried for hire in any private hire vehicle or;
  - (b) cause or procure any other person or tout or solicit on a road or other public place any person to hire or be carried for hire in any private hire vehicle or;
  - (c) offer that vehicle for immediate hire while the driver or the vehicle is on a road or other public place provided that merely parking that vehicle on a road or other public place shall not in itself be deemed to be a breach of this condition or;
  - (d) accept an offer for the immediate hire of that vehicle while the driver or the vehicle is on a road or other public place except where such offer is first communicated to the driver by telephone or by apparatus for wireless telegraphy fitted to that vehicle.

#### **Hackney Carriage Drivers Only**

28. When driving a Hackney Carriage licensed to ply for hire in Central Bedfordshire, the driver shall not charge any fare for the hiring of the carriage in excess of or in addition to the table of fares fixed by the Council pursuant to Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

The driver must comply with requirements of the Central Bedfordshire

Byelaws.