

**Bridgend County Borough Council**  
**Private Hire Vehicle conditions of licence and explanatory notes**  
**Conditions of Licence**

The proprietor shall observe and perform the following terms and conditions in respect of Private Hire Vehicle Licences.

1. The vehicle must **Not** be white in colour.

This condition does not affect the subsequent removal of a licence in respect of a white vehicle licensed as a Private Hire Vehicle before 24th January 1990 but such renewal will cease on first renewal after 1st January 1993.

2. The licence plate shall be fixed and displayed outside the rear of the vehicle directly on or immediately above the bumper in such a position that the vehicle's registration mark is not obscured, with the particulars thereon facing outwards in such a manner and place that the licence plate is clearly visible by daylight from the road at the rear of the vehicle.
  - (a) Adhesive signs, provided by the Council, shall be affixed on the upper part of the driver and front passenger side doors indicating that the vehicle is licensed by the Council, by showing the licence number of that vehicle in the Council approved format.
  - (b) A Certificate issued by the Council indicating that a vehicle is licensed as a Private Hire Vehicle shall be displayed on the left hand side of the windscreen of such vehicle in such a position that it can be easily seen from the front of the vehicle.
  - (c) A copy of the current Certificate of Insurance, under Part V1 of the Road Traffic Act 1988, in respect of the vehicle shall at all times be displayed on the windscreen of the vehicle so as to be available for inspection.
  - (d) As from 21st February 2002, any proprietor who upon application for renewal of a licence and whose Vehicle Registration Document indicates that the vehicle is five or more years old (in respect of the date of first registration) as at the time of application for the licence, shall be required by the Council to submit the motor vehicle for inspection by the Council on three occasions of every year from and including the year of grant or renewal; and in other cases the applicant shall be required to submit the motor vehicle for inspection by the Council on two occasions of every such year.
3. The proprietor shall not display or suffer or permit to be displayed on or from a Private Hire Vehicle any sign, notice, device or livery which includes:-
  - (a) The word "Taxi" or "Cab" whether in the singular or plural or "Hire" or any word of

similar meaning or appearance to any of those words, whether alone or as part of another word.

4. Without prejudice to the preceding sub-paragraph (4) and sub-paragraph (6) below, the proprietor shall not display or suffer or permit to be displayed on or from the vehicle, any sign, notice, mark, illumination or other feature which having regard to the time and place at which it is displayed and to any other circumstances may suggest to a person seeking to hire a Private Hire Vehicle, or Hackney Carriage, that the vehicle is used for the purpose of carrying passengers for Hire or Reward.
5.
  - (a) For the purposes of this condition "advertisement" means any word, letter, sign, notice, illumination, device or representation in the nature of the advertisement.
  - (b) The proprietor shall not display or suffer or permit to be displayed in or on the Vehicle any advertisement without the prior written approval of the Council.
6. Conditions 4, and 5 and 6 shall not apply to:
  - (a) a sign or notice displayed on or from the vehicle which is prescribed by or under an enactment;
  - (b) a sign being not more than 4" in depth fixed to the front windscreen of the vehicle indicating the name of the owner or operator, which has been approved by the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services.
7.
  - (a) All vehicles, other than mini-buses, **must** have rear seat belts fitted in accordance with Motor Vehicles (Fitting of Seat Belts) Regulations 1987.
  - (b) All mini-buses licensed from 1st March 1999 must have seat belts fitted to all forward facing seats and where fitted must comply with the technical and installation requirements of regulations 46-48 of the Road Vehicles Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 (as amended).
8. The proprietor shall cause to be carried on the vehicle a minimum of 2.0 kg dry powder fire extinguisher meeting the requirements of European Standard BS EN3:1996, such extinguisher to be fixed on the vehicle in such a position as to be readily available for use and maintained in good working order at all times. Any previous approved appliance may continue to be carried until its expiry date has elapsed or is found to be in an unserviceable condition.
9. The proprietor shall cause to be carried within the vehicle a first aid kit of no less a standard than the "Industrial Size No. 1 Kit" required under the Office, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963.
10. The licensee of any vehicle licensed under the Council's special policy for wheelchair accessible vehicles must ensure that the vehicle is wheelchair

accessible at all times and carry such ramps etc that are necessary. The maximum seating capacity of the vehicle will be specified in the licence and must include provision for at least one wheelchair.

- 11 All remould/retread tyres must, as from 3rd February 1999, be marked and comply with the current BS number.
- 12 Every "estate car" type vehicle which has more than four seats must have a means of opening the rear tailgate from the inside and signs indicating "Emergency Exit" and the method of operation to open the door must be clearly marked on the inside of the door.
13. Where payment of the licence fee is made by a cheque which is subsequently dishonoured any licence shall be revoked as from the date on which the licensee is notified of such revocation.
14. The proprietor shall not cause or suffer or permit to be conveyed in the vehicle a greater number of persons exclusive of the driver than the number of persons specified in the Licence provided.
- 15 The licence shall remain in force for a period of one year and is not transferable to any other vehicle unless such vehicle has passed the Council's test for private hire vehicles.
- 16 The proprietor shall cause the number of the licence to be affixed and displayed on the vehicle at all times during which the vehicle is being used as a Private Hire Vehicle, this number to be displayed by means of a licence disc and licence plate issued by the Council to the proprietor.
17. The licence disc shall be fixed and displayed inside the vehicle in such a manner and place that the particulars thereon are clear and visible to any passenger being conveyed in the vehicle.
18. The licence disc and licence plate shall remain the property of the Council and shall be returned to them within seven days after the service on the proprietor of an appropriate notice by the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services if a proprietor no longer holds a Private Hire Vehicle Licence with the Council which is in force in respect of the vehicle.
19. The proprietor shall permit an authorised officer of the Council or police officer to inspect and test a vehicle at all reasonable times. If the officer is not satisfied as to the fitness or condition of the Private Hire Vehicle he shall give notice in writing to the proprietor to make the vehicle available for further inspection and testing at such reasonable times and place as specified in the notice, the vehicle licence being suspended until such time as the officer is so satisfied; provided that if the officer is not so satisfied before the expiration of a period of two months, the licence shall be revoked. The disc and plate shall on revocation of the licence be handed to the officer but will be returned upon re-instatement of the licence.

20. In the event of a vehicle licence being suspended under (4) above, the licence disc and plate shall be surrendered to the authorised officer or police officer, and shall be held by him pending the testing of the vehicle.
21. Without prejudice to the aforementioned provisions, the proprietor on receipt of a notice in writing from the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services, the Council shall present the Private Hire Vehicle for inspection and testing by or on behalf of the Council.
22. At all times, the proprietor shall during the currency of the licence keep in force in relation to the user of the vehicles as a Private Hire Vehicle a policy of insurance issued by an approved insurance company on a minimum of a third party basis and comply with the requirements of Part V1 of the Road Traffic Act 1988.
23. On being so required by an authorised officer, the proprietor shall produce to that officer for examination a Certificate of Insurance issued by an approved insurance company in respect of the vehicle for the purpose of Part V1 of the Road Traffic Act 1988, provided that if the proprietor fails to produce such certificate to the officer on request, the proprietor shall within five days of such request produce it to that officer or to an authorised officer at the Council's Offices, Bridgend.
24. Any alteration in the design of the vehicle, whether to the machinery or the body, shall be reported to the Council who may require the proprietor to submit the vehicle for further examination.
25. Sub-Section (2) and (5) of Section 233 of the Local Government Act 1972 shall have effect in relation to any notices required or authorised to be given or served on the proprietor or on behalf of the Council by an authorised officer.
26. The proprietor shall inform the Head of Legal and Regulatory Services within 72 hours of any accident to the vehicle where damage materially affects the safety, performance and appearance of the vehicle.
27. If the proprietor of a private hire vehicle in respect of which a vehicle licence has been granted by the Council transfers his interest in the vehicle to a person other than the proprietor whose name is specified in the licence, he shall within 14 days after the transfer give notice in writing thereof to the Council specifying the name and address of the person to whom the private hire vehicle has been transferred.
28. The Council may decide to suspend, revoke or refuse to renew any licence in respect of a private hire vehicle for any reasonable cause, including:-
  - (a) That the private hire vehicle is unfit for use as a private hire vehicle;
  - (b) Any offence under or non-compliance with the provisions of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 or Part 11 of the Local Government

(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 on the part of the proprietor/operator.

29. **Exemptions for specialist vehicles**  
**Effective from 1st August 2000**

Where a private hire vehicle has been licensed and approved as a specialist vehicle exemptions to the above conditions will apply. These exemptions are listed on the attached sheet and form part of these conditions of licence.

**Exemption 1**

Approved specialist vehicles only may be white in colour.

**Exemption 2**

Approved specialist vehicles only are exempt from the requirement to display a licence plate at all times. All other conditions requiring display of licence discs remain.

**Exemption 3**

Approved specialist vehicles only may be **left hand drive**.

**Dated: May 2016**

Knowledge Test Version