

Appendix D - Hackney Carriage Vehicle Conditions

Zone 1 - District previously known as East Northamptonshire Council

In the area of zone 1 (previously known as the district of East Northamptonshire), all newly licensed hackney carriages shall comply, in all respects, with the conditions of licensing set out within Appendix D of this policy.

There are no limits to the number of new hackney carriage plates that can be applied for in zone 1.

Thirty five hackney carriage plate numbers have been reserved for vehicles with grandfather rights. These grandfather rights are for five years and are provided for only those vehicles currently licensed with the Council. These grandfather rights do not include vehicles subject to change of ownership during this period.

Provisions Fixing the Stands of Hackney Carriages

Within zone 1 there are hackney carriage stands in the following locations:

- College Street, Rushden on the south side between the point situated at 16.15m and 44.2 m respectively, in a westerly direction from the line of the curb on its junction with the west side of Alfred Street, for 5 vehicles with any overflow at:
- Alfred Street, Rushden additional hackney carriage stand west side of Alfred Street from a point 7.32m south of its junction with College Street for a distance of 27.43m in a southerly direction, for 6 vehicles
- John Street, Rushden east side from a point 10.06m north of its junction with Church Street for a distance of 11.89m in a northerly direction, for 2 vehicles

Fares Table

Applications for an increase in fares are to be submitted to the Licensing and Appeals Committee for consideration and determination.

Section 67 of the 1976 Act provides that when licensed hackney carriages are used in the district of zone 1 for private hire/hackney carriage purposes, the fares charged shall not be greater than as prescribed in the approved Fares Table.

Byelaws

The byelaws made under Section 68 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and Section 171 of the Public Health Act 1875, by the East Northamptonshire District Council apply to hackney carriages in zone 1. These are reproduced below.

Zone 1 Byelaws

Interpretation

1. Throughout these Byelaws “The Council” means the East Northamptonshire District Council and “The District” means the District of East Northamptonshire.

Provisions regulating the manner in which the number of each hackney carriage, corresponding with the number of its licence, shall be displayed

2. (a) The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the plates bearing the name of the Licensing Authority, the permitted number of persons carried and the number of the licence granted to him in respect of the carriage to be affixed to the outside and inside respectively of the carriage.

(b) A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall:
 - (i) not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer any such plate 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 or covering 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 the furniture generally and the exterior coach work 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;

 - (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.
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4. Every proprietor of a Hackney Carriage shall cause the same to be provided with a taximeter fitted with a flag or other device bearing the words "FOR HIRE" and so constructed, attached and maintained as to comply with the following requirements, that is to say;
 - (a) The words "FOR HIRE" shall be exhibited on each side of the flag or other device in plain letters and the flag or other device shall be capable of being locked in a position in which the words are horizontal and legible.
 - (b) When the flag or other device is so locked the machinery of the taximeter shall not be in action and the means of bringing it into action shall be by moving the flag or other device so that the words are not conveniently legible.
 - (c) When the flag or other device is so locked that the aforesaid words are horizontal and legible no fare shall be recorded on the face of the taximeter.
 - (d) When the machinery of the taximeter is in action there shall be recorded on the face of the taximeter in figures clearly legible and free from ambiguity a fare not exceeding the rate or fare which the proprietor or driver is entitled to demand and take in pursuance of the bylaw in that behalf for the hire or the carriage by distance.
 - (e) The word "FARE" shall be printed on the face of the taximeter in plain letters so as clearly to apply to the fare recorded therein.
 - (f) 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.
 - (g) The taximeter and all the 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.
5. The proprietor or driver of a Hackney Carriage shall secure that no advertisement whatsoever shall be displayed on the exterior of the carriage without written consent of the licensing authority.

Provisions regulating the conduct of the proprietors and drivers of Hackney Carriages, plying within the District in their several employment's, and determining whether such drivers shall wear any and what badges.

6. Every 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 bylaw in that behalf locked in the position in which no fare is recorded on the face of the taximeter;
 - (b) as soon as the carriage is hired by distance, and before commencing the journey, 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
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taximeter and keep the machinery of the taximeter in action until the termination of the hiring;

(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 as defined for the purpose of the Road Traffic Act 1972 and also at any other time at the request of the hirer.

7. 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.
 8. 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 Bylaw in that behalf;
 - (b) if a stand at the time of his 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 carriage to be moved forward so as to fill the place previously occupied by the carriage driven off or moved forward;
 - (e) if a Hackney Carriage occupies the first or second position on one of the stands fixed by these Bylaws, the driver shall remain with the carriage ready to be hired at once.
 9. 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.
 10. The driver of a Hackney Carriage shall behave in a civil and orderly manner and shall take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of persons conveyed in or entering or alighting from the vehicle.
 11. The proprietor or driver of a Hackney Carriage who has agreed or has been hired to be in attendance with the carriage at the appointed time and place shall, unless delayed or prevented by some sufficient cause, punctually attend with such carriage at such appointed time and place.
 12. The driver of a Hackney Carriage when hired to drive to any particular destination shall, subject to any directions given by the hirer, proceed to that destination by the shortest available route.
 13. 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.
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14. If a badge has been provided by the Council and delivered to the driver of a Hackney Carriage he shall, when standing or plying for hire, and when hired, wear the badge in such a position and manner as to be plainly visible.
15. The driver of a Hackney Carriage so constructed 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 or unloading;
 - (c) afford reasonable assistance in removing it to or from the entrance of any building, station, or place at which he may take up or set down such person.

Provisions Fixing the Stands of Hackney Carriages

16. Each of the several places specified in the following list shall be a stand for such number of Hackney Carriages as is specified in the list:
 - Rushden College Street, on the south side between the points 5 situated at 16.15m and 44.2m respectively, in a westerly direction from the line of the kerb on its junction with the west side of Alfred Street.
 - West side of 6 Alfred Street from a point 7.32m south of its junction with College Street for a distance of 27.43m in a southerly direction.
 - John Street, east side from a point 10.06m north of its junction with Church Street for a distance of 11.89m in a northerly direction.

Provisions fixing the rates or fares to be paid for Hackney Carriages within the District and securing the due publication of such fares

17. The proprietor or driver of a Hackney Carriage shall be entitled to demand and take for the hire of the carriage the rate of fare prescribed by the following table, the rate or fare being calculated by distance unless the hirer express at the commencement of the hiring his/her desire to engage by time.

Provided always that where a Hackney Carriage furnished with a taximeter shall be hired by 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 following table which it may not be possible to record on the face of the taximeter.

Fares for Distance

See below;

18. (a) The proprietor of a Hackney Carriage shall cause a statement of the fares fixed by the bylaw in that behalf to be exhibited inside the carriage, in clearly distinguishable letters and figures.
 - (b) The proprietor or driver of a Hackney Carriage bearing a statement of fares in accordance with this bylaw 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.
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(c) Fares for Distance - See below

Provisions securing the safe custody and re-delivery of any property accidentally left in Hackney Carriages and fixing the charges to be made in respect thereof.

19. 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.
20. 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,
 - (a) carry it as soon as possible and in any event within 38 hours, if not sooner claimed by or on behalf of its owner, to the Police Station, and leave it in the custody of the officer in charge on his giving a receipt for it.
 - (b) be entitled to receive from any person to whom the property shall be re-delivered an amount equal to five pence in the pound of its estimated value (or the fare for the distance from the place of finding to the Police Station, whichever be the greater) but not more than five pounds.

Penalties

- 21 Every person who shall offend against any of these bylaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding [Level 2 on the Standard Scale].

Fares currently set as:

Mileage:

If the distance does not exceed 1/2 of a mile (804.68m.) for the whole distance £2.80

If the distance exceeds 1/2 of a mile (804.68m.) for the first 1/2 of a mile £2.80

For each subsequent 1/15.5 of a mile (113.55yds/103.8m) or uncompleted part thereof 10 pence

Waiting time

For each period of 30 seconds or uncompleted part thereof 10 pence

Extra charges

For hiring commenced between midnight and 2am and 6am to 7am 50% of the fare

For hiring commenced between 2am and 6am 100% of the fare

For hiring between 6pm on Christmas Eve and 6am on the day following Boxing Day and 6pm on New Year's Eve and 6am on the day following New Year's Day	100% of the fare
For hiring on Sundays and Bank Holidays	50% of the fare
For each bicycle, perambulator, or any other package conveyed outside the carriage	10 pence
Soiling charge	£31.50

Dated: February 2022
