

**LEWES DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976**

**PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER'S LICENCE**

**CONDITIONS OF LICENCE**

1. **Conduct of Driver**

The driver shall -

- (1) afford all reasonable assistance with passengers' luggage;
- (2) at all times be clean and respectable in his/her dress and person and behave in a civil and orderly manner;
- (3) take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of passengers conveyed in, entering or alighting from the vehicle driven by him/her;
- (4) not without the express consent of the hirer smoke, drink or eat in the vehicle;
- (5) not without the express consent of the hirer play any radio or sound reproducing instrument or equipment in the vehicle other than for the purpose of sending or receiving messages in connection with the operation of the vehicle;
- (6) at no time cause or permit the noise emitted by any radio or other previously mentioned equipment in the vehicle which he/she is driving to be a source of nuisance or annoyance to any person, whether inside or outside the vehicle.

2. **Passengers**

- (1) the driver shall not convey or permit to be conveyed in a private hire vehicle a greater number of persons than that prescribed in the licence for the vehicle;
- (2) the driver shall not without the consent of the hirer of a vehicle convey or permit to be conveyed any other person in that vehicle;

3. **Seat Belt Regulations 1993**

**Under these regulations all occupants of a vehicle, as described, must wear a seat belt. Private Hire drivers may only claim exemption when a fare paying passenger is actually in the vehicle and not at any other time.**

<b><u>Occupant</u></b>	<b><u>Front Seat</u></b>	<b><u>Rear Seat</u></b>	<b><u>Whose Responsibility</u></b>
Driver	Seat belt <b>MUST</b> be worn	N/A	Driver
Child under 3 years of age	Appropriate child restraint <b>MUST</b> be used	Appropriate child restraint <b>MUST</b> be used	Driver
Child aged 3 to 11 and under 1.5 metres in height (approx 5 feet)	As above, if not, an adult seat belt <b>MUST</b> be worn	As above, if not, an adult seat belt <b>MUST</b> be worn	Driver

Child aged 12 or 13 or younger child 1.5 metres or more in height	Adult seat belt <b>MUST</b> be worn	Adult seat belt must be worn	Driver
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Adult passengers (Includes children 14 years and over)	Seat belt <b>MUST</b> be worn	Seat <b>belt MUST</b> be worn	Passenger
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A disabled persons belt must be used if appropriate and a wheelchair must be restrained. Minibus regulations apply from August 1998 in respect of installation and condition and will be checked under **M.O.T.** inspections from that date.

4. **Lost Property**

- (1) the driver shall immediately after the termination of any hiring or as soon as practicable thereafter carefully search the vehicle for any property which may have been accidentally left there;
- (2) if any property accidentally left in a private hire vehicle by any person who may have been conveyed therein is found by or handed to the driver, he/she shall take it as soon as possible and in any event within twenty four hours, if not sooner claimed by or on behalf of its owner, to a convenient police station and leave it in the custody of the officer in charge having been given a receipt for it.

5. **Written Receipts**

The driver shall if requested by the hirer of a private hire vehicle provide him/her with a written receipt for the fares paid.

6. **Animals**

The driver shall not convey in a private hire vehicle any animal belonging to or in the custody of himself/herself or the proprietor or operator of the vehicle and he/she shall ensure that any animal belonging to or in the custody of any passenger is conveyed in the rear of the vehicle.

7. **Prompt Attendance**

The driver of a private hire vehicle shall, if he/she is aware that the vehicle has been hired to be in attendance at an appointed time and place or he/she has otherwise been instructed by the operator or proprietor of the vehicle to be in attendance at an appointed time and place punctually attend at that appointed time and place, unless delayed or prevented by reasonable cause.

8. **Copy of Conditions**

The driver shall at all times when driving a private hire vehicle carry with him/her a copy of these conditions and shall make it available for inspection by the hirer or any other passenger on request.

9. **Deposit of Driver's Licence**

If the driver is permitted or employed to drive a private hire vehicle of which the proprietor is someone other than himself/herself, he/she shall before commencing to drive that vehicle deposit this licence with that proprietor for retention by him/her until such time as the driver ceases to be permitted or employed to drive the vehicle or any other vehicle of his/hers.

10. **Taximeter**  
If a private hire vehicle being driven by the driver is fitted with a taximeter, the driver shall not cause the fare recorded thereon to be cancelled or concealed until the hirer has had a reasonable opportunity of examining it and has paid the fare.
11. **Fare to be demanded**  
The driver shall not demand from any hirer of a private hire vehicle a fare in excess of any previously agreed for that hiring between the hirer and the operator of, if the vehicle is fitted with a taximeter and there has been no previous agreement as to the fare, the fare shown on the face of the taximeter.
12. **Change of Address**  
The driver shall notify the Council in writing of any change of his/her address during the period of the licence within seven days of such change taking place.
13. **Convictions**  
The driver shall within seven days disclose to the Council in writing details of any conviction imposed on him/her during the period of the licence.
14. **Dress/Appearance**  
Drivers are expected to be clean and tidy in their appearance and to be dressed in a manner that does not cause embarrassment to members of the public. To that end swimwear, football style tops and shorts, sleeveless vests or singlets are NOT allowed.
15. **Return of Badge**  
The driver shall upon the expiry (without renewal), revocation or suspension of this licence forthwith return to the Council the driver's badge issued to him by the Council.
16. **Scanners**  
Any driver of a private hire vehicle convicted of the use of a radio scanner will be barred from holding a Private Hire Drivers Licence with the Council for a minimum period of five years from date of conviction.

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