

HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENCES
CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

Chorley Council will not issue a Hackney Carriage Vehicle licence unless it is satisfied that the person applying for the licence is the proprietor.

- 1) Has completed and submitted to it the application on the prescribed form.
- 2) Has satisfied the Council that he is a fit and proper person to hold such a licence and to operate a Hackney Carriage.
- 3) Has satisfied the Council that the vehicle is registered under the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1949 or the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1971 or any statutory amendments of those Acts by producing the vehicles registration document at the time of application.
- 4) Has satisfied the Council that there is in force, in relation to the use of the vehicle as a Hackney Carriage Vehicle, a policy of insurance or security complying with the provisions of Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1972, which covers third party liability both in respect of physical injury or death and also in respect of damage to personal belongings. The policy/certificate of insurance or security must be produced before a licence may be granted.
- 5) Will present the vehicle for inspection at such place and at such time as the Council may by notice require.
- 6) Has satisfied the Council that the vehicle is suitable for use as a Hackney Carriage. For this purpose the proprietor must satisfy the Council that the vehicle complies with the following requirements:-
 - a) It must have at least two doors for the boarding and alighting of passengers in addition to a separate door for the driver and it must be fitted with at least four road wheels and be a right-hand drive vehicle.
 - b) The engine capacity must be adequate for the loads to be carried. Accordingly, the vehicle should have an engine capacity of at least 75 bhp or 1400cc.
 - c) It must have a luggage compartment adequate to contain luggage for each of the passengers, which it is authorised to carry. To accommodate luggage e.g. 4 suitcases measuring 20in x 28in x 7in.
 - d) Only one passenger may be accommodated in the front of the vehicle next to the driver in cases where the vehicle is designed to take only one front seat passenger.
 - e) Door catches must be secure at all times whilst being capable of easy operation by passengers.
 - f) Forward mounted driving mirrors must be fitted on both sides of the vehicle and an interior rear mirror must be fitted. The mirrors must be maintained all times.
 - g) The vehicle must be white unless it is a purpose built wheelchair accessible vehicle. Bizarre or garish colour schemes will not be permitted.
 - h) A 1kg (2.2lb) fire extinguisher of the dry powder type shall be fitted to the vehicle so as to be readily available for use at all times and be marked with the Hackney Carriage plate number. The fire extinguisher shall be maintained in good working order at all times.

- i) Every estate type vehicle be fitted with the manufacturer's approved or other universal type approved grille, securely fixed to the frame of the vehicle between the passenger area and load (luggage) carrying area.
 - j) Seating for each passenger must be **not** less than 400mm (16") with a minimum width, measured between the arm rests, or any other point that is protruding into passenger seating area, of 1220mm (48").
 - k) The minimum width between the back of the driver's seat and the front of the rear seating, measured when the driver's seat is fully pushed back, must **not** be less than 180mm (7").
 - l) The height as measured between the rear seat and the height to the roof lining in a vertical plain, must be **not** less than 860mm (34").
 - m) No vehicle will be licensed if the passenger has to climb over seats or luggage to gain egress, or where such entrance or exit is sited over a fuel tank, high sill, or has been fitted with handles which are not clearly visible and of a type consistent with those fitted to all other doors of the vehicle.
- 7) In addition to the licence plate, which must be displayed at all times, a hackney carriage, shall have a roof sign, illuminated when its plying for hire and shall be extinguished once the taximeter is reset at the commencement of a journey, until such time as that journey is complete.
- (a) The roof sign must be firmly affixed to the roof of the vehicle and may display the words 'taxi' or 'hackney carriage' or the operating name of a company or proprietor or business and its telephone number.
- 8) a) With effect from 1 July 2008 no vehicle will be accepted at first licensing unless it is less than three years old at first registration, or unless it is in exceptionally good condition, as defined by a vehicle safety inspection report.
- b) With effect from 1 July 2008 no vehicle licensed with this Council will be re-licensed if it is more than eight years old at first registration, unless it is in exceptionally good condition, as defined by a vehicle safety report.
- c) With effect from 1 July 2008, in the event of a licensed private hire vehicle reaching six years old the vehicle will be subject to taxi testing three times per year and an annual Vehicle Safety Report.
- d) No Q plated vehicles will be considered for licensing.
9. The vehicle shall display the Council's approved door signs on the front passenger and drivers doors and the rear external and internal licence plates. Any additional livery must not be above 12" measured from the bottom of the door, and in any case must not protrude higher than the bump bar strip fitted to the door, this area will be regarded as the lower panel of the door.