



**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976
POLICY REQUIREMENTS FOR PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCES**

Appendix 3

1. No age limits are applied by the Council to private hire vehicles with the exception of 'stretch' limousines.
2. No 'stretch' limousine will be licensed for more than six months at a time, and no licence will be issued for such a vehicle that is more than ten years of age.

Applications to licence any limousine which has been converted must be accompanied by an appropriate Type Approval Certificate.

3. No livery requirements are applied by the Council to private hire vehicles, other than the conditions relating to door signs and licence plates.
4. The Council is unable to licence vehicles that carry more than eight passengers and a driver. The general expectation is that vehicles will be a saloon, hatchback, estate, multi-purpose vehicle, mini-bus, or 'stretch' limousine with at least four doors. Applications for any converted vehicles must be accompanied by an appropriate Type Approval Certificate. Any other vehicle will be subject to inspection on a case-by-case basis.
5. Left-hand drive vehicles will not be considered as suitable for licensing on safety grounds as they will generally require front-seat passengers to step into the roadway to enter or exit the vehicle.
6. The maximum number of passengers which the vehicle will be licensed to carry will be the number of seats recorded on the V5C registration certificate (logbook) as being suitable for carrying passengers
7. Vehicles will not be licensed unless:

- (1) there is in force a current insurance policy compliant with the Road Traffic Act 1988;
 - (2) a valid MOT certificate is in force (issued within the previous 30 days), regardless of the age of the vehicle;
 - (3) that officers are satisfied the vehicle is or will be registered with the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency;
 - (4) the vehicle is taxed at the time of licensing (unless the vehicle is exempt from taxation); and
 - (5) that an appropriate type-approval certificate has been issued where necessary.
8. When vehicles are presented for inspection, the exterior of the vehicle (including the underside of the vehicle) and interior must be in a suitable clean condition to allow for proper inspection of these areas. If the vehicle is presented in such a condition to prevent a full inspection, the inspection will not be carried out.
9. Vehicle plates must be securely mounted on a bracket which is permanently affixed to the rear of the vehicle. The bracket must be clearly seen and must not obscure any rear lights or the vehicle index plate.

The detachable plate slip which is issued once a vehicle is licensed must be permanently affixed in a position where it can be clearly seen by rear and front seat passengers.

Vehicles to be used under a chauffeur operator's licence will have a licence disc fitted to the inside of the front windscreen, and do not have to display a plate on the rear of the vehicle.

Where a taximeter is fitted, it must be fitted securely. The meter must be visible from the rear passenger seats, and must not interfere with the safe operation of the vehicle. to the vehicle, including its seating capacity.