

# Bolton Council

## DEFINITIONS

"Authorised Officer" has the same meaning as in Section 80 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

"The Council" means the Bolton Council.

"The identification plate" means the plate issued by the Council for the purpose of identifying the vehicle as a private hire vehicle.

"The proprietor" has the same meaning as in Section 80 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

## IDENTIFICATION PLATES

The identification plate shall remain the property of the Council at all times and shall be affixed to the private hire vehicle, by the proprietor at his own expense, in the following manner:-

- at the rear of the vehicle
- to the exterior of the vehicle
- with the number facing to the rear
- in a vertical plane
- affixed by bolts or screws in such a manner as to be easily removed by an Authorised Officer of the Council or police constable.

The proprietor of the private hire vehicle shall ensure the identification plate is maintained and kept in such condition that the information contained on the identification plate is clearly visible to public view at all times.

The proprietor of the private hire vehicle shall cause the number of the private hire vehicle's licence granted by the Council in respect of the private hire vehicle to be kept clearly marked and kept and maintained inside the vehicle in such a position as to be clearly visible at all times to persons being conveyed in the private hire vehicle.

## TYPE OF VEHICLE

The proprietor shall ensure that a private hire vehicle is not of a type approved by the Council for public hire use.

## CONDITION OF VEHICLE

The proprietor shall ensure the private hire vehicle shall be maintained in a sound mechanical and structural condition at all times and be capable of satisfying the Council's mechanical and structural inspection at any time during the continuance of the vehicle's licence.

The interior and exterior of the private hire vehicle shall be maintained in a clean, safe condition by the proprietor.

The proprietor shall not allow the mechanical and structural specification of the private hire vehicle to be varied without the consent of an Authorised Officer of the Council.

The proprietor of the vehicle shall:

- Provide sufficient means by which any person in the private hire vehicle may communicate with the driver during the course of the hiring.
- Cause the interior of the vehicle to be kept wind and water tight.
- Provide any necessary windows and means of opening and closing same with not less than one window on each side of the passenger compartment.
- Cause the seats in the passenger compartment to be properly cushioned and covered.
- Cause the floor in the passenger compartment to be provided with a proper carpet, mat or other suitable covering.
- Cause fittings and furniture of the private hire vehicle to be kept in a clean condition and well maintained and in every way fit and safe for public use.
- Provide facilities for the conveyance of luggage safely and protected from inclement weather.
- Provide at least two doors for use of persons conveyed in such private hire vehicle and a separate means of ingress and egress for the driver.

## FIRE EXTINGUISHER

The proprietor of the private hire vehicle shall provide and maintain to the satisfaction of an Authorised Officer an efficient fire extinguisher containing A.F.F.F. foam (minimum 0.9ltr) or Halon or any other form of fire extinguisher required in writing from time to time by an Authorised Officer which shall be securely fixed to the vehicle and in easy reach of the driver at all times. The extinguisher shall be manufactured to British Standards and shall show the B.S. number.

## ADVERTISEMENTS

The proprietor shall not display or suffer or permit to be displayed on or from a private hire vehicle any sign or notice which consists of or includes the word "Taxi" or "Cab" whether in the singular or plural or "For Hire" or any word or words of similar meaning or appearances to any of those words, whether alone or as part of another word.

## COUNCIL NOTICES

The proprietor shall cause to be affixed and maintained in a conspicuous position in accordance with the directions of the Director, Chief Executives Department any sign or notices required from time to time by the Council.

## PASSENGERS

The proprietor shall not permit the private hire vehicle to be used to carry a greater number of passengers than the number prescribed in the licence.

The proprietor shall not allow any child under the age of ten years to be conveyed in the front of the vehicle without the prior written consent of an Authorised Officer of the Council.

The proprietor shall allow only one passenger to be conveyed in the front of the vehicle beside the driver.

## ANIMALS

The proprietor shall not permit any animal to ride in the vehicle except an animal in the custody or control of the hirer which animal shall be conveyed in the rear of the vehicle.

## TAXIMETERS

If the vehicle is fitted with a taximeter:-

The proprietor shall cause the taximeter to be of a type approved by the Council and to be maintained in a sound mechanical condition at all times and for it to be located within the vehicle in accordance with the reasonable instructions of an Authorised Officer of the Council.

The proprietor shall cause the taximeter to be set to display the fare rate adopted by the Operator and notified to the Council.

The proprietor shall not use or permit to be used a taximeter which has not been sealed by the Council to prevent unauthorised adjustment.

The proprietor shall not permit the taximeter to be fitted with an automatic second tariff.

The proprietor shall cause the taximeter to be fitted with a key to bring the machinery into action and cause the word "HIRED" to appear on the face of the meter as soon as the vehicle is on hire.

The proprietor shall ensure that when the vehicle is not hired the key is to be locked and machinery kept inactive and the meter must show no fare at that time.

The proprietor shall ensure that when the taximeter is brought into action the fare and permitted extras will be shown legibly on the face of the meter and shall be no more than permitted by the approved tariff.

The proprietor shall ensure that "FARE" shall be printed on the face of the meter in clear letters so as to apply the fare recorded thereon.

The proprietor shall ensure that the taximeter is in such a position in the private hire vehicle that the figures recorded thereon are clearly visible to any passenger being carried therein.

The proprietor shall ensure that the taximeter is sufficiently illuminated that when in use it is visible to all passengers.

The proprietor shall ensure that the taximeter is not replaced without prior permission of an Authorised Officer of the Council.

The proprietor shall ensure that the fare charged shall be calculated from the point in the District of which the hirer commences his journey and shall not exceed that displayed on the taximeter at the completion of his journey.

The proprietor shall ensure that the taximeter is only brought into action at the commencement of a hirer's journey.

## FARE TABLES

The proprietor shall ensure that a copy of any private hire fare table issued by the Council is exhibited inside the private hire vehicle at all times and that such fare table is the current one in respect of the operator for which the vehicle is being used.

The proprietor shall ensure that the fare table is not concealed from view or rendered illegible while the vehicle is being used for hire.

## LICENCES

The proprietor shall deposit the vehicle licence issued by the Council with the private hire operator for whom the vehicle is being used during the time it is so used for that operator.

## TWO WAY RADIOS

The proprietor shall ensure that any radio equipment fitted to the private hire vehicle is at all times kept in a safe and sound condition and maintained in proper working order.

## CONVICTIONS

The proprietor of a private hire vehicle shall notify the Council in writing of any conviction recorded against him/her by any Court within seven days of such conviction being imposed.

## CHEQUES

A licence in respect of which the licence fee has been paid by cheque shall not be effective until the cheque has been cleared.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The proprietor shall notify the Council in writing of any change in his/her address within 7 days of such change taking place.

## TOUTING ETC.

The proprietor shall not:

tout or solicit on a road or other public place any person to hire or be carried for hire in any private hire vehicle, or cause or procure any other person to tout or solicit on a road or other public place any person to hire or be carried for hire in any private hire vehicle.

In this condition: "road means any highway and any other road to which the public has access including bridges over which a road passes."

## DRIVERS

The proprietor shall not cause or procure or permit any person who is not the holder of a current private hire driver licence issued by the Council to drive the private hire vehicle.

## NAME OF OPERATOR TO BE DISPLAYED

All private hire vehicles must carry the name and telephone number of the Private Hire Vehicle Operator for whom the vehicle is working in a manner which is to the satisfaction of the Director, Chief Executives Department. On saloon cars the details must appear on both front doors of the vehicle and on 'minibuses' the details must appear on both sides of the vehicle.

The details shall appear in print which is sufficiently large to enable the Operator to be identified from a reasonable distance and lettering must contrast with the background (or the colour of the vehicle). As a guide, and effective area of no less than half of the area of the door panel will be deemed sufficient.

The details shall be permanently fixed to the vehicle, or fixed by 'magnetic' backing material but in either case must be displayed at all times when the vehicle is being used as a private hire vehicle.

Any variation must have the written permission of the Director, Chief Executives Department and will be permitted only in exceptional circumstances.

Failure to comply with this requirement will render the vehicle liable to suspension under the provisions of Section 69 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976