

DERBY CITY COUNCIL

DRAFT

ADDITIONAL HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING CONDITIONS

Consent to Install TV and Radio Systems in Taxis

Information for Companies and Taxi Proprietors

These Conditions are intended to provide a policy for granting consent to install TV and radio systems in Hackney Carriages ('taxis') licensed by the Council.

This policy covers TV and radio systems which can be viewed by passengers. It is designed to ensure systems do not interfere with passenger comfort, safety or convenience.

Systems complying with the policy will be given consent to be installed in taxis.

ADDITIONAL HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING CONDITIONS

ADVICE FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE PROPRIETORS/DRIVERS

Vehicle proprietors may install only systems approved in writing by the Council. The Council's only concern in relation to these systems is that of public safety and convenience. .

Proprietors and drivers must ensure ongoing compliance with the policy described in Appendix 1. In particular, they must:

- not tamper with equipment
- not remove any notices concerning the system
- rectify any damage as soon as possible, and cease use of the vehicle immediately if such damage may affect the safety or comfort of passengers

The system should have a pre-set maximum volume acceptable to the driver.

If you have any concerns or queries concerning the safety or comfort of the system please contact the Licensing Unit. The Taxi Licensing Section cannot become involved in matters concerning any contractual or business arrangements between the owner and the manufacturer.

Compliance and Enforcement

Vehicle checks may be carried out by Enforcement Officers to ensure compliance with the policy. Action may be taken against vehicle drivers and proprietors in the event of non-compliance with the policy. The action would depend on the circumstances but could include suspension of the vehicle or driver licence.

ADDITIONAL HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING CONDITIONS

ADVICE FOR COMPANIES

In order for companies supplying, installing or manufacturing systems ('companies') to gain consent for the installation of systems, they will be examined against the criteria contained in the policy. These criteria are shown in **Appendix 1**.

Providing systems meet the criteria, consent will be given and they may be installed in taxis in Derby without further reference to the Council.

Ongoing compliance with the policy is essential and the Council request companies provide vehicle owners with a copy of this document.

Enforcement Officers will carry out compliance checks of the system and the images being displayed. If systems are found contravening the policy, then the vehicle licence may be suspended and/or consent for the system withdrawn. The matter may also be referred to the Council's Taxi Licensing Sub Committee.

The Taxi Licensing Section cannot become involved in matters concerning any contractual or business arrangements between the owner and the company.

STEP 1

Submit written evidence that:

- the system will not interfere with the vehicle systems or components. If the system is to be installed in different make and model vehicles then the evidence needs to cover all relevant makes and models.
- the system cannot be used or tampered with so as to play unauthorised images or sound.
- A suitable independent body has examined the system and confirmed that when operating within a taxi, the system complies with all current regulations and Directives applicable for such vehicle types. An independent body having experience of such equipment is:

Specialist Transport Advisory & Testing Utility Society (STATUS)
Department of Engineering & Technology
Manchester Metropolitan University
John Dalton Street
Chester Street
MANCHESTER
M1 5GD
Tel. 0161 247 6242

ADDITIONAL HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING CONDITIONS

STEP 2

If satisfactory evidence has been submitted, then vehicles must be presented for inspection by prior appointment by Licensing Officers.

The vehicle will be examined in relation to the criteria in Appendix 1.

STEP 3

If the vehicle satisfactorily meets the criteria then the company will receive notification from the Taxi Licensing Section that consent has been given.

The company must provide images in advance of screening for the Taxi Licensing Section to view.

ADDITIONAL HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING CONDITIONS

APPENDIX 1

Consent for installation is subject to:

1. All advertising material complying with the Council's advertising policy for hackney carriage advertising.
2. All broadcast material complying with:
 - a. the OFCOM Broadcasting Code AND
 - b. the criteria contained in the Council's advertising policy for hackney carriage advertising.
3. All film/video material:
 - a. classified by the BBFC as U, Uc or exempt from classification AND
 - b. comply with the criteria contained in the Council's advertising policy for hackney carriage advertising.
4. All systems complying with the following design and construction criteria:
 - a. All equipment must comply with any legislative requirements in respect of Construction and Use Regulations and other legislation.
 - b. All equipment must be designed, constructed and installed in such a way and in such material as to present no danger to passengers or driver, including from impact with the equipment in the event of an accident or damage from the electrical integrity being breached through vandalism, misuse or wear and tear.
 - c. The equipment must not interfere with any other safety, control, electrical, computer, navigation, satellite or radio system in the vehicle
 - d. The intensity of any screen should not be such as to be visually intrusive or dazzling. The position of the screen must not obstruct the passenger's view of the meter or of any Council fare table or notice.
 - e. All equipment must be installed in the driver's compartment and should not be visible from the driver position.
 - f. The installation must not be such as to weaken the structure or any component part of the vehicle.

ADDITIONAL HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING CONDITIONS

- g. The design must be discreet and complement the interior furnishing of the vehicle.
- h. The system must include safeguards to maintain the integrity of the system and prevent the display of unapproved material.
- i. Passengers must have control of the volume (which should be capable of being muted) with a pre-set maximum volume acceptable to the driver so as not to cause him/her a distraction whilst driving.
- j. Passengers must be able to switch the system off completely and once so switched off, the system must remain off for the rest of that passenger's journey. This condition is necessary to accommodate passengers who may be susceptible to having flickering image induced fits.
- k. A notice should be displayed within prominent view and physical reach of all passenger seats giving instructions to passengers as to adjusting the volume level and how to switch off the system. This sign should be clearly visible during daylight hours and illuminated at all other times.
- l. The mute and volume controls must be accessible from the nearside and offside passenger seats and from the flip seats.
- m. Once activated the mute should continue without further activation by the passenger until the passenger leaves the vehicle.
- n. All equipment must be protected from the elements, secure from tampering and located such as to have no impact on the luggage carrying capacity of the taxi.