

CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982

TAXI LICENCES

CONDITIONS

1. A taxi shall be either
 - (a) a saloon or estate car with four doors, an engine classification of not less than 1600 cc and an internal luggage capacity of not less than 11.5 cubic feet, shall measure at least 48" across the back seat and shall be large enough to carry no fewer than four and no more than five passengers (the seating capacity to be determined in accordance with Regulation 42 of the Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing Regulations 1971); or
 - (b) a vehicle permanently adapted to carry up to eight passengers, with transverse seats in an approved layout and use for hire or reward.
2. The holder of a taxi licence shall ensure, before plying for hire of carrying passengers, that the vehicle including all bodywork, windows, upholstery and fittings is in a safe and serviceable condition and, subject to prevailing road conditions, is in a clean condition.
3. The holder of a taxi licence shall require the licensed vehicle to undergo and pass an annual inspection by the licensing authority or its agent. On receiving the requisite notice, in writing, from the licensing authority or its agent, he/she shall present the vehicle for examination at such time and place as may reasonably be required by the licensing authority or its agent. In addition to such annual inspection, the holder of a taxi licence may be required to make the vehicle available for inspection by the licensing authority or its agent at any time subject to prior notification. The licensing authority further reserves the right to inspect the vehicle at random throughout the year.
4. The granting fee payable in respect of a taxi licence shall include the initial vehicle inspection and one re-inspection if required. The cost of any further inspections will require to be met by the licence holder.
5. The holder of a taxi licence, whose vehicle is more than 12 months old from the date of first registration, shall produce a valid MOT certificate any time when the vehicle is being inspected by or behalf of the local authority and at such other times as may reasonably be required by the local authority or an agent on their behalf.
6. The holder of a taxi licence, when the taxi is damaged in a vehicular accident or by any other means, shall report the damage to the licensing authority and Tayside Police within two working days and, if the taxi is roadworthy, he/she shall, within two working days, arrange an appointment for the vehicle to be inspected at the Police Garage as soon as possible. As soon as repairs to the taxi have been completed, the taxi shall be re-inspected at the Police Garage.
7. The holder of a taxi licence shall not ask the driver of a taxi to do anything which would result in a driver committing a breach of the conditions attaching to the grant of a taxi driver's licence.
8. The holder of a taxi licence shall keep an up-to-date list of the names and addresses of all taxi drivers permitted by him to use the taxi and shall produce such list on demand to the licensing authority or to any Police officer.
9. The holder of a taxi licence shall ensure that where staff are employed, adequate employer liability insurance is maintained.

10. The holder of a taxi licence shall be bound to fulfil, or cause to be fulfilled, at the time and location specified, an engagement to hire the taxi which he/she has accepted, unless prevented by sufficient cause.
11. The holder of a taxi licence shall hold in his/her own name the requisite vehicle registration documents and the certificate of insurance in relation to the taxi as required by Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1988; where more than one name appears on the taxi licence the vehicle registration document and the certificate of insurance shall be in the name of at least one of those names.
12. The holder of a taxi licence shall ensure that, while the vehicle is in use as a taxi, any taxi licence plate or other items, which have been issued by the licensing authority for the purpose of indicating that the vehicle is a taxi, are displayed at all times in positions approved by the licensing authority. Further, the name of the taxi licence holder and the number allotted to such taxi shall be painted in a straight line on the outside of the driver's and front passenger's door below the window frame, not more than nine inches below such window frame, in letters and Arabic numbers not less than one inch in height and not more than 3½ inches in height and of proportionate breadth in a colour conspicuously different from the ground colour of the vehicle. If the numbers and letters are not painted onto the door themselves, then only numbers and letters printed on adhesive backgrounds may be used on taxis.
13. The holder of a taxi licence shall not conceal, remove, deface or alter, or cause or permit to be concealed, removed, defaced or altered any names, letters or numbers on a taxi, taxi plate, taxi licence or on the taxi meter fitted. If any such taxi licence plate, taxi licence or taxi meter becomes obliterated or defaced so as not to be distinctly visible or legible or if any such taxi plate or taxi licence is lost, the holder of a taxi licence shall report this to the licensing authority as soon as practicable in order to obtain a replacement plate or licence. A fee will be payable for the issue of a taxi plate to replace a lost taxi plate.
14. The holder of a taxi licence shall obtain from the licensing authority a notice detailing the current table of approved taxi fares and charges and will display the said notice in the passenger compartment of the taxi in such a position that it will be readily available to the passengers being carried and no other table of fares and charges will be displayed.
15. The holder of a taxi licence shall, unless the cost of the journey is regulated by a licensing authority fare structure, take steps to ensure that any potential hirer of the taxi is informed, prior to acceptance of the hire:
 - (a) that the fare is not so regulated; and
 - (b) the cost or method of calculating the cost of the proposed journey.

In any event the cost of the journey shall, at no time, exceed the maximum fare which would have been applicable had it been regulated by the licensing authority fare structure.

16. The taxi operator and/or the driver shall keep a note of the dates, times, departure points, destination points and fare for each hire undertaken. Said details shall be retained for a minimum of 14 days and shall be exhibited on demand to any police officer or authorised officer of the licensing authority.
17. The holder of a taxi licence shall display upon the roof of the taxi a sign of a type approved by the licensing authority and bearing the word "TAXI" for the purpose of

identifying the vehicle as a taxi and the sign, of proprietary make, shall be centrally mounted in a position approved by the licensing authority or its agent.

18. The holder of a taxi licence shall have affixed to and used on the taxi a taxi meter which has been tested and approved by the licensing authority or its agent. The holder of a taxi licence shall ensure that the taxi meter fitted to the taxi is located in such a position that it will be readily visible to passengers.
19. The holder of a taxi licence shall not use, or cause or permit to be used, on a taxi a road wheel or tyre of a different circumference or pressure from that for which the taxi meter affixed to the taxi was designed, geared and had been tested by the licensing authority or its agent.
20. The holder of a taxi licence shall only use a taxi meter which has been stamped or sealed by the licensing authority or its agent after testing and approval as to distance and time in accordance with the approved taxi fares and charges. Once a taxi meter is fitted to the taxi, the licence holder shall not tamper with the taxi meter or break or tamper with any seal or stamp on such meter or any attachment affixed thereto by the manufacturer or licensing authority or its agent except to remove the taxi meter for repair or replacement. Should the seal be broken, the taxi meter shall be re-tested and approved by the licensing authority or its agent before the vehicle is again used as a taxi.
21. The holder of a taxi licence shall not knowingly use or cause or permit to be used, the taxi during any period that the seals affixed to the taxi meter and, where so affixed to the vehicle, are broken or detached.
22. The holder of a taxi licence shall not knowingly use, or cause or permit to be used, a taxi meter which is in any way defective.
23. The holder of a taxi licence must install, in a suitable fastener in his/her taxi, a fire extinguisher.
24. The holder of a taxi licence must carry in the taxi a suitable first aid kit. The carrying of a first aid kit does not imply that the driver is qualified to administer first aid.
25. The holder of a taxi licence, on receiving his/her licence or duplicate thereof, shall not alter or erase or deface or permit to be altered or erased or defaced any such licence or other document issued by the licensing authority. Any such licence or other document so altered or defaced shall be null and void.
26. The holder of a taxi licence shall produce such licence or other document issued by the licensing authority on demand to the licensing authority or any police officer.
27. When a taxi is sold or otherwise ceases to be the property of the licence holder, otherwise than where such a taxi is replaced by another duly approved vehicle, the licence shall lapse and become null and void and the holder of the taxi licence shall immediately notify the licensing authority and return the licence, together with any licence plate which had been issued, to the licensing authority.
28. The holder of a taxi licence who changes his/her name, address or place of business shall, within seven days, give notice thereof in writing and produce his/her licence and plate to the licensing authority in order that the particulars thereon may be amended. Any amendment required to the plate shall result in a fresh plate fee being payable.

29. The holder of a taxi licence shall furnish and maintain an efficient light or lights, constructed and fitted to afford, when lit, sufficient internal illumination of the taxi, to the satisfaction of the licensing authority.
30. The holder of a taxi licence shall not display any notice, advertisement or printed bill or names, letters or numbers upon the outside or inside of any taxi other than in accordance with advertising permitted by the licensing authority.
31. Where a taxi is called to pick up and deliver a fare outside a burgh boundary and when the hire is less than the total dead mileage covered, the maximum fare to be charged will be that which would apply from the taxi's base to either the destination or to the point of pick-up whichever is the greater.
32. The holder of a taxi licence shall ensure that a clean and legible copy of these Conditions is kept in the vehicle and is available on request by any police officer or authorised officer of the Council or by any person who has hired or used the vehicle or is about to do so.
33. The licensing authority, whether upon a complaint made to them or not and notwithstanding the absence of any conviction, may order the suspension of a taxi licence but only after the licence holder has been given the opportunity of being heard. The licence may be suspended
 - (a) if the licence holder or the person managing the activity or any partner/director of a firm holding the licence is no longer a fit and proper person to hold the licence
 - (b) if the activity is being managed by or carried on for the benefit of a person, other than the licence holder, who would themselves have been refused a licence
 - (c) if the activity has caused, is causing or is likely to cause undue public nuisance or a threat to public order or public safety
 - (d) if a condition of the licence has been contravened.
34. The licensing authority may, at any time whether or not upon an application made to them by the holder of a taxi licence, vary the terms of the licence on any grounds they think fit, in accordance with paragraph 10 of Schedule 1 to the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.