

APPENDIX C - Private Hire Vehicle Plate Exemption Conditions

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The conditions listed below apply to all private hire vehicles granted an exemption from the requirement to display an external identification plate (private hire vehicle licence plate) and are in addition to the standard conditions that are required for private hire vehicles.

2 Conditions

- 2.1 The vehicle licence plate and letter of authorisation are issued by the council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and shall remain the property of the council.
- 2.2 The vehicle will be issued with a licence plate and letter of exemption which must be kept within the vehicle at all times and made available for an authorised officer for inspection.
- 2.3 In the event of loss of the letter of exemption, the operator shall make immediate contact with the Local Authority to obtain a replacement.
- 2.4 Exempted vehicles must not display any form of advertisements, signage or logos, including advertising the operating company inside or outside the vehicle.
- 2.5 When issued with a letter of exemption, a taximeter must not be installed in the vehicle.
- 2.6 During the period of the exemption notice the driver will not be required to wear a private hire driver's badge but must have it available for immediate inspection by an authorised officer.
- 2.7 Drivers of an exempt vehicle will be smartly dressed in either a formal chauffeur's uniform or business suit with collar and tie.
- 2.8 The operator will notify the council immediately of any change of use of the vehicle.
- 2.9 The vehicle must be used for executive hire only and not for general day to day private hire work, including education transport.
- 2.10 An exemption notice will cease to have effect on the sale or transfer of the vehicle to another party. The person to whom the exemption is granted must inform the council of the sale or transfer of ownership immediately and in writing. The exemption notice must be returned to the council along with the vehicle licence plate.
- 2.11 The hirer shall not have the facility to settle accounts and / or tender direct payment to the driver by any means. Payment may only be made, either before or after the journey, direct to the Operator or their accounting system.

Failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in the Council suspending, revoking or refusing to renew the licence and in certain circumstances, in prosecution. There is a right of appeal to the Magistrates Court.