

SPECIAL EVENT PRIVATE HIRE CARS **GUIDANCE FOR LICENCE APPLICANTS**

GENERAL NOTES

A Special Event Private Hire Car is a converted vehicle used as a private hire car for special journeys. In every day language a stretched limousine.

The licensing of such a vehicle will be dependent upon the Council being satisfied that the vehicle holds a current and valid MoT and is suitable in size type and design for use as a private hire car. The prime consideration of the Council is the safety and comfort of the travelling public.

Before a licence may be granted the applicant must present their vehicle for examination at the Taxi Examination Centre. The Council's Cab Inspector will contact the applicant with an appointment for presentation of the vehicle. **PLEASE NOTE:** The current MoT certificate (photocopy not acceptable) must be presented to staff at the Taxi Examination Centre as part of this appointment **AND** the MoT certificate must be obtained within three months prior to this appointment.

The number of passengers which the vehicle is licensed to carry will in all cases be subject to the discretion of the Council.

For avoidance of doubt even though the vehicle may be fitted with a bar there can be no sale or provision of alcohol.

REQUIREMENTS

Only vehicles complying with the following requirements will be considered for licensing as Special Event Private Hire Cars: -

1. Vehicles may be left or right hand drive providing that they have proof of full DETR Vehicle Type Approval;
2. Vehicles must capable of carrying at least 3 and not more than 8 passengers in addition to the driver;
3. Vehicles must be fitted with at least 4 doors and 4 wheels;
4. All paintwork must be free of rust and corrosion and must be of a very high standard;
5. Vehicles must have adequate space for luggage;
6. Vehicles shall be equipped at all times with seat belts of an acceptable type in respect of every seat which can be used for the carriage of passengers. Seat belts must comply with current legislation and be in proper working order at all times.
7. To comply with Construction and Use Regulations the front windscreen and front door windows must not exceed 25% of tint;
8. Vehicles must otherwise comply with the Council's test requirements for private hire cars, as amended by these requirements.

Notwithstanding the above the Council reserves the right to take age, mechanical condition, mileage, appearance, bodywork condition, safety features and any other relevant considerations into account when deciding on whether to grant a Special Event Private Hire Car Licence.

Please also refer to the Council's Conditions Book (June 06)