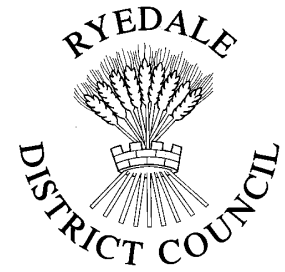


BECOMING A TAXI DRIVER



Hackney Carriage or Private Hire?

Ryedale District Council

The Council recognises the valuable service provided to the public by Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers, this leaflet is aimed at the individual who wishes to become a taxi driver.

The 'Public' is comprised of many individuals with different needs, abilities and in some cases, disabilities. It is essential that the service provided by Hackney Carriages and Private Hire vehicles is able to cope with this variety. The service you provide must be both safe and accessible. **Public safety is paramount.**

What is required?

You will be required to fill in the relevant driver/vehicle application form, An enhanced CRB check will be carried out with the Criminal Records Bureau and a medical form will need completing by your G.P.

What is a Hackney?

With a hackney carriage you may pick up passengers from either a taxi rank or from in the street. You must display a taxi sign on the roof, with the light illuminated if available for hire.

A taximeter must also be fitted.

You must have on display a plate securely fastened to the rear of the vehicle stating the district in which you are licensed, the number of passengers you are licensed to carry, and the vehicle details i.e. Hackney Carriage vehicle registration.

Please read the policy guidelines attached to the application form.

If licensed as a hackney carriage driver you may only drive a hackney carriage vehicle

What is Private Hire?

With a private hire vehicle you must be pre-booked, you cannot pick up passengers off the street or off a rank.

You must have on display a plate fastened securely to the rear of the vehicle stating the district in which you are licensed, the number of passengers you are licensed to carry and details of the vehicle i.e. private hire, vehicle registration.

Please read the policy guidelines attached to the application form.

When licensed as a private hire driver you may only drive a private hire vehicle.

With private hire you may also need planning permission to operate the business from a premise and if self employed, an operator licence is required.

Initial driver enquiry

There are three types of licences, a hackney carriage driver licence (taxi), a private hire driver licence and a dual driver licence. A dual licence allows you to drive both taxis and private hire vehicles.

Once you have decided, you will be given the relevant application form, medical form and a CRB form to complete. For identification purposes your application must be supported with 4 passport photographs and with the following documents: a current passport (if available), full driving licence, either a birth or marriage certificate and a utility bill showing your current address.

Your G.P should complete the medical form and return it to the taxi licensing office, the fee is payable by the applicant.

When filling in the CRB form please use **black ink**, there is no need to fill in sections E & F or the back page.

What is required for a vehicle application?

When applying to licence a vehicle you must fill out the relevant application form i.e. hackney carriage vehicle or private hire vehicle, accompanied by the vehicle's V5 document, a current Insurance Certificate and if over 3 years old a MOT certificate.

The vehicle on first application must be under 5 years old and can be renewed until it reaches 10 years old. If the vehicle is new and being licensed as a hackney carriage once it reaches 1 year old the vehicle must then have an MOT certificate.

All vehicles must be inspected at Streetscene before being licensed

Fees

Fees are charged for vehicle, driver and operator licences. Please ring for details.

If you require any further information please contact Taxi Licensing on 01653 600666 ext 474.