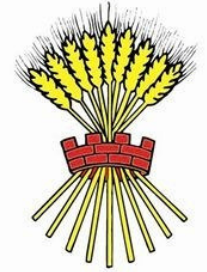


**RYEDALE
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**



BECOMING A LICENSED DRIVER

The Council recognises the valuable service provided to the public by Hackney Carriage/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.**

Initial driver enquiry.

To be licensed by Ryedale District Council you must reside within the Ryedale area or within 5 miles of the Ryedale border.

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 GP, the fee for which is payable by the applicant to the GP.

All applicants for a hackney carriage (taxi), dual and school transport driver licence must be at least 21 years of age and have held a full DVLA driver licence for 12 months. All applicants for a private hire driver licence must be at least 18 years of age and to have held a full DVLA driver licence for at least 12 months. A dual licence allows you to drive both taxis and private hire vehicles.

Once you have decided which licence you require, you must make an appointment to see the Taxi Licensing Officer to complete a CRB form and application form. For identification purposes your application must be supported with 4 passport- sized 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. You will also be given a medical form to be completed by your GP and returned to us.

Vehicles, what's the difference?

Hackney Carriage (taxi)

A hackney carriage (taxi) may pick up passengers from either a taxi rank or hailed in the street. It must display a taxi sign on the roof, with the light illuminated if available for hire.

A taximeter must also be fitted.

It must have on display a plate securely fastened to the rear of the vehicle stating the district in which it is licensed, the number of passengers it is licensed to carry, and the vehicle details i.e. vehicle registration.

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

Private Hire Vehicle.

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

It must have on display a plate fastened securely to the rear of the vehicle stating the district in which it is licensed, the number of passengers it is licensed to carry and details of the vehicle i.e. vehicle registration.

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

Please read the policy guidelines attached to the relevant application form.

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.

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 a private hire vehicle over 3 years old, an MOT certificate. 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.

The vehicle on first application must be under 5 years old and can be renewed until it reaches 10 years old.

All vehicles must be inspected at the Depot before being licensed.

Fees

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

If you require any further information please email streetscene@ryedale.gov.uk or telephone 01653 600666 ext 474.