

BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL

HACKNEY CARRIAGES

BYELAWS

Byelaws made under Section 68 of Town Police Clauses Act 1847, and Section 171 of Public Health Act 1875, by the District Council of Bassetlaw with respect to Hackney Carriages in the District of Bassetlaw.

1. INTERPRETATION:

Throughout these byelaws “the Council” means the District Council of Bassetlaw and “the District” means the District of Bassetlaw, and for the avoidance of doubt any reference to hackney carriages shall include horse drawn hackney carriages, except in byelaws 3b, 3c, 3i, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 from which horse drawn vehicles shall be exempt.

PROVISIONS REGULATING THE MANNER IN WHICH THE NUMBER OF EACH HACKNEY CARRIAGE, CORRESPONDING WITH THE NUMBER OF ITS LICENCE, SHALL BE DISPLAYED.

2.

- a) The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the number of the licence granted to him in respect of the carriage to be legibly painted or marked on the outside and inside of the carriage, or on plates affixed thereto:
- b) A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall:-
 - not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer any such number to be concealed from public view while the carriage is standing or plying for hire;
 - not cause or permit the carriage to stand or ply for hire with any such painting, marking or plate so defaced that any figure or material particular is illegible.

PROVISIONS REGULATING HOW HACKNEY CARRIAGES ARE TO BE FURNISHED OR PROVIDED.

3. The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall:-

- a) provide sufficient means by which any person in the carriage may communicate with the driver;
- b) cause the roof or covering to be kept water-tight;
- c) provide any necessary windows and a means of opening and closing not less than one window on each side;
- d) cause the seats to be properly cushioned or covered;
- e) cause the floor to be provided with a proper carpet, mat or other suitable covering;

- f) cause the fittings and furniture generally to be kept in a clean condition, well maintained and in every way fit for public service;
 - g) provide means for securing luggage if the carriage is so constructed as to carry luggage;
 - h) provide an efficient fire extinguisher which shall be carried in such a position as to be readily available for use;
 - i) provide at least two doors for the use of persons conveyed in such carriage and a separate means of ingress and egress for the driver.
4. The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the same to be provided with a taxi-meter, so constructed, attached and maintained as to comply with the following requirements, that is to say,
- a) the taxi-meter shall be fitted with a key, flag or other device the turning of which will bring the machinery of the taxi-meter into action and cause the word "HIRED" to appear on the face of the taxi-meter.
 - b) such key, flag or other device shall be capable of being locked in such a position that the machinery of the taxi-meter is not in action and that no fare is recorded on the face of the taxi-meter;
 - c) when the machinery of the taxi-meter is in action, there shall be recorded on the face of the taxi-meter in clearly legible figures a fare not exceeding the rate or fare which the proprietor or driver is entitled to demand and take for the hire of the carriage by distance in accordance with the rates fixed by the Council.
 - d) the word "FARE" shall be printed on the face of the taxi-meter in plain letters so as clearly to apply to the fare recorded thereon;
 - e) the taxi-meter shall be so placed that all letters and figures on the face thereof are at all times plainly visible to any person being conveyed in the carriage, and for that purpose the letters and figures shall be capable of being suitably illuminated during any period of hiring;
 - f) the taxi-meter and all the fittings thereof shall be so affixed to the carriage with seals or other appliances that it shall not be practicable for any person to tamper with them except by breaking, damaging or permanently displacing the seals or other appliances.

PROVISIONS REGULATING THE CONDUCT OF THE PROPRIETORS AND DRIVERS OF HACKNEY CARRIAGES PLYING WITHIN THE DISTRICT IN THEIR SEVERAL EMPLOYMENTS, AND DETERMINING WHETHER SUCH DRIVERS SHALL WEAR ANY AND WHAT BADGES.

5. The driver of a hackney carriage shall:-
- a) when standing or plying for hire, keep the key, flag or other device fitted in pursuance of the byelaw in that behalf locked in the position in which no fare is recorded on the face of the taxi-meter;
 - b) before beginning the journey, bring the machinery of the taxi-meter into action by moving the said key, flag other device, so that the word "HIRE" is legible on the face of the taxi-meter and keep the machinery of the taxi-meter in action until the termination of the hiring;
 - c) cause the dial of the taxi-meter to be kept properly illuminated throughout any part of hiring which is during the hours of darkness, meaning between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise and also at any other time at the request of the hirer.

6. The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause the same to be provided with a sign, securely affixed on the roof of the said hackney carriage, attached and maintained so as to comply with the following requirements, that is to say,
 - a) the said sign shall clearly display to both the front and rear of the vehicle, the word "TAXI" in normal daylight and shall be kept illuminated during the hours of darkness when plying for hire;
 - b) the word "TAXI" shall be shown on the said sign in plain letters not less than two and a half inches high, nor more than five inches high, such lettering to be dark in colour, on a light background;
 - c) the said sign shall not exceed eight inches in height in total, nor thirty inches in width in total.
7. A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not tamper with or permit any person to tamper with any taxi-meter with which the carriage is provided , with the fittings thereof, or with the seals affixed thereto.
8. The driver of a hackney carriage shall, when plying for hire in any street and not actually hired;
 - a) proceed with reasonable speed to one of the stands appointed by the Council;
 - b) if a stand, at the time of his arrival, is occupied by the full number of carriages authorised to occupy it, where practicable, proceed to another stand;
 - c) on arriving at a stand not already occupied by the full number of carriages authorised to occupy it, station the carriage immediately behind the carriage or carriages on the stand and so as to face in the same direction;
 - d) from time to time when any other carriage immediately in front is driven off or moved forward, cause his carriage to be moved forward so as to fill the place previously occupied by the carriage driven off or moved forward.
9. A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage, when standing or plying for hire, shall not, by calling out or otherwise, importune any person to hire such carriage and shall not make use of the services of any other person for the purpose.
10. The driver of a hackney carriage shall behave in a civil and orderly manner and shall take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of persons conveyed or entering or alighting from the vehicle.
11. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage who has agreed, or who has been hired to be in attendance with the carriage at an appointed time and place shall, unless delayed or prevented by some sufficient cause punctually attend with such carriage at such appointed time and place.
12. The driver of a hackney carriage when hired to drive to any particular destination shall, subject to any directions given by the hirer, proceed to that destination by the shortest available route.
13. A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not convey or permit to be conveyed in such carriage, any greater number of persons than the number of persons specified on the plate affixed to the outside of the carriage.
14. If a badge has been provided by the Council and delivered to the driver of a hackney carriage, either with the licence granted to him or afterwards he shall, when standing or plying for hire, and when hired, wear that badge in such position and manner as to be plainly visible.

15. The driver of a hackney carriage shall, when requested by any person hiring or seeking to hire the carriage
- a) convey a reasonable quantity of luggage;
 - b) afford reasonable assistance in loading and unloading;
 - c) afford reasonable assistance in removing it to or from the entrance of any building, station or place at which he may take up or set down such persons.

PROVISIONS SECURING THE DUE PUBLICATION OF THE RATES OR FAREX FIXED FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGES WITHIN THE DISTRICT

16. a) The proprietor of a hackney carriage shall cause a statement of the fares in accordance with the rates fixed by the Council to be exhibited inside the carriage, in clearly distinguishable letters and figures;
- b) The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage bearing a statement of fares in accordance with the rate fixed by the Council shall not wilfully or negligently cause or suffer the letters or figures in the statement to be concealed or rendered illegible at any time while the carriage is plying or being used for hire.

PROVISIONS SECURING THE SAFE CUSTODY AND RE-DELIVERY OF ANY PROPERTY ACCIDENTALLY LEFT IN HACKNEY CARRIAGES, AND FIXING THE CHARGES TO BE MADE IN RESPECT THEREOF.

17. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall immediately after the termination of any hiring or as soon as practicable thereafter, carefully search the carriage for any property which may have been accidentally left therein.
18. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall, if any property accidentally left therein by any person who may have been conveyed in the carriage be found by or handed to him;
- a) carry it as soon as possible and in any event within forty-eight hours, if not sooner claimed by or on behalf of its owner, to a Police Station in the District of Bassetlaw and leave it in the custody of the official in charge of the office on his giving a receipt for it;
 - b) be entitled to receive from any person to whom the property shall be re-delivered an amount equal to five pence in the pound of its estimated value (or the fare for the distance from the place of finding to the place to which delivered, whichever be the greater) but not more than five pounds.

PENALTIES

19. Every person who shall offend against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further fine not exceeding five pounds for each day during which the offence continues after conviction therefor.
20. The byelaws relating to hackney carriages which were made by the District Council of Bassetlaw on the 21 day of August 1980, and which were confirmed by one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State on the 17 day of November 1980 are hereby repealed.

THE COMMON SEAL of the
Bassetlaw District Council was
hereunto affixed the sixth day of
April 1990 in the presence of:-

R F Webster
Chairman

R D Blair
Chief Executive

The foregoing byelaws are
hereby confirmed by the
Secretary of State and shall come
into operation on the 1st day of
July 1990.

(Signed) M. Lambirth

An Assistant Secretary in the
Department of Transport on
behalf of the Secretary of State
for Transport. Observations of the
County