

Hackney Carriage Byelaws

Made under Section 68 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847, and Section 171 of the Public Health Act 1875 by South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Interpretation

1. Throughout these Byelaws “the Council” means the South Cambridgeshire District Council and “the district” means the District of South Cambridgeshire

Provisions regulating the manner in which the number of each hackney carriage, corresponding with the number of its licence shall be displayed.

2. **The proprietor of a hackney carriage:**

- a. Shall cause the number of the licence granted to him or her in respect of the carriage to be legibly painted or marked on the outside and inside respectively of the carriage, or on plates affixed thereto;
- b. Not willfully or negligently cause or suffer any such number to be concealed from public view whilst the carriage is standing or plying for hire;
- c. Not cause or permit the vehicle to ply for hire with any such plate so defaced that any figure or material particular is illegible.

Provisions regulating how hackney carriages are to be furnished or provided.

3. **Every 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 window and 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 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 taximeter so constructed, attached and maintained as to comply with the following requirements, that is to say;
 - a. The taximeter shall be fitted with a key or other device the turning of which will bring the machinery of the taximeter into action and cause the word, “Hired” to appear on the face of the taximeter;
 - b. Such key or device shall be capable of being locked in such a position that the machinery of the taximeter is not in action and no fare is recorded on the face of the taximeter;
 - c. When the machinery of the taximeter is in action there shall be recorded on the face of the taximeter in figures clearly legible a fare not exceeding the rate of fare which the proprietor or driver is entitled to demand and take in pursuance of the tariff fixed by the council in that behalf for the hirer of the carriage by distance;
 - d. The word “Fare” shall be printed on the face of the taximeter in plain letters so as clearly to apply to the fare recorded thereon;
 - e. The taximeter shall be so placed that all letters and figures on the face thereof may be at all times plainly visible to any person being conveyed in the carriage;
 - f. And for that purpose the letters and figures shall be suitably illuminated during any period of hiring;
 - g. The taximeter and all the fittings thereof shall be 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 such 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 taximeter;
 - b. Before beginning a journey for which a fare is charged for distance and time, bring the machinery of the taximeter into action by moving the said key, flag or other device, so that the word, "Hire" is legible on the face of the taximeter and keep the machinery of the taximeter in action until the termination of the hiring;
 - c. Cause the dial of the taximeter to be kept properly illuminated throughout any part of the hiring which is during the hours of darkness; this being the time between half an hour after sunset to half an hour before sunrise, and also at any other time at the request of the hirer.
6. A proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall not tamper with or permit any person to tamper with any taximeter with which the carriage is provided, with the fittings thereof, or with the seals affixed thereto.
7. The driver of a hackney carriage for which stands are fixed by the council in any village or parish where such stands have been fixed shall, when plying for hire in any street and not actually hired,
- a. Proceed with reasonable speed to, and station the carriage on one of such stands;
 - b. If a stand, at the time of his or her arrival, is occupied by the full number of carriages authorised to occupy it, 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 or her carriage to be moved forward so as to fill the place previously occupied by the carriage driven off or moved forward.
8. A proprietor 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.
9. 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 in or entering or alighting the vehicle.
10. The proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage who shall have agreed or shall have 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.
11. 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 her by the Council or otherwise, he or she shall, when standing, plying or driving for hire, wear the badge in such position and manner as to be plainly and distinctly visible.
12. 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 outside of the carriage.
13. The driver of a hackney carriage so constructed as to carry luggage 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 and house, station or place at which he or she may take or set down such person.
14. Every proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage who shall knowingly convey in the carriage the dead body of any person shall, immediately thereafter notify the fact to the Environmental Services Officer of the Council.

Provisions fixing the rates on fares to be paid for hackney carriages within the district, and securing the due publication of such fares.

15. The proprietor of a hackney carriage plying for hire for which any fares are fixed by the Council shall;
- a) Cause a statement of such fares to be exhibited on the inside of the carriage, in clearly distinguishable letters and figures;

b) Renew such letters and figures as often as necessary to keep them clearly visible.

- 16.** Every proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage shall immediately after the termination of any hiring, carefully search the carriage for any property which may have been accidentally left therein.
- 17.** Every proprietor or driver of a hackney carriage in the district 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 or her:
- a. Carry it within twenty four hours, if not sooner claimed by or on behalf of its owner, to the Council offices, or to the property store at Parkside Police Station, Cambridge, and leave it in the custody of the District Secretary or Officer in charge of the station on their 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 Council offices or to the property store at Parkside Police Station, Cambridge (whichever be greater) but not more than five pounds.

18. Penalties

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 therefore.