

Standards for Conditions of Appearance of a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicle

1. Although minor blemishes should not constitute a failure, the following general criteria should be followed. The vehicle must comply with the following:-

- (a) **Rust:** Any vehicle presented should be free from any significant areas of visible rusting. Any vehicle with visible rust patches should be failed.
- (b) **Dents:** Any vehicle with dents on one or more panels where such dents are more than 5 cm in diameter/length should be failed.
- (c) **Scratches:** Any vehicle with un-repaired scratches down to bare metal on three or more panels, of 5 cm in length, or a single scratch of more than 20cms in length, should be failed.
- (d) **Paintwork:** All panels on all vehicles shall be painted in manufacturer's colour; panels with unmatched colours or in primer should be deemed as failures.
- (e) **Seats:** In conventional vehicles where it is intended that the licence be for four passengers, the rear seat must be at least 1220mm (48 inches) in width. All seats shall have a minimum of 410mm (16 inches) per person and in respect of seating comply with the Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) Regulations 2002. All seats, including the driver's must be free from repaired cuts, tears or cigarette burns, except of a very minor nature. Any repairs must have been carried out in a professional and neat manner. All seats must be kept clean and tidy and free from all extraneous matter.
- (f) **Carpets/floor covering:** All carpets and floor covering shall be complete and free from cuts, tears, staining and soiling
- (g) **Headlining and other trim:** All interior trim, including headlining shall be clean, complete, properly fitted and free from cuts, tears or soiling.
- (h) **Boot/luggage compartment:** This should be empty, except for spare wheel, essential tools and first aid kit, (to comply with Health and Safety and First Aid Regulations). The compartment should be clean and any covering free from major cuts, tears or other damage or staining.
- (i) **Interior:** The interior must be kept clean, tidy and free of any water penetration or litter or other rubbish.
- (j) **Vehicle emissions:** The vehicle must comply with the Motor Vehicle (Emission Test) Regulations.
- (k) **Glazing:** All vehicles will be tested with a light meter. Any vehicle with a reading lower than the following will not be licensed. Front windscreen 75, front side windows 70, all other windows 30. The lower the number the darker the tint. Exceptions may be made for limousines

2. Appeals procedure

2.1 Any person aggrieved by any conditions specified in this licence may appeal to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days of the decision being made.