

HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENCE

PRE-LICENSING STANDARDS

In order that licensed drivers will be reliable and of a good standard, a person being considered for a Driver's licence shall:-

- (a) complete an application form on which must be shown any conviction and/or fixed penalty offences. Omissions or incorrect statements of a serious nature will render the licence liable to immediate suspension;
- (b) support the application with a medical certificate confirming the applicant is fit to be a taxi driver;
- (c) on the first application [and, if required so to do, on any subsequent occasion or renewal] pass a knowledge test on the streets of the District and the operation of the meter;
- (d) have held a full European driver's licence for at least four years

In addition, the following guidelines will be applied in respect of applications where offences are revealed when deciding whether or not to grant a licence:-

Motoring offences, e.g. parking/speeding	Licence refused if more than 3 in previous 3 years
Serious motoring offences, e.g. Insurance/Drink Driving	Must have none in previous 5 years
Reckless driving/Driving whilst disqualified	Licence refused unless offence expired
Criminal offences, e.g. theft	Must have none in previous 5 years
Serious criminal offences, e.g. grievous bodily harm and sexual offences	Must have none in previous 7 years
Custodial sentences	Must have none in previous 10 years

In respect of the guidelines, references to offences refer to unspent convictions

All known relevant facts will be taken into account when consideration is given to an application for a Driver's Licence. Liaison with the Police takes place regarding applications. Applicants will be required to appear before the Licensing [General Purposes] Sub-Committee if they disclose offences of any nature, including Fixed Penalty offences unless, if they have no more than three penalty points, they have shown the original Fixed Penalty Notice to the Streets and Seafronts Manager, or his deputy.

APPLICANTS MUST HAVE HELD A FULL EUROPEAN DRIVER'S LICENCE FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR LICENSING AS A HACKNEY CARRIAGE OR PRIVATE HIRE DRIVER.