

Private Hire Vehicle Plate Exemption Conditions

The conditions listed below apply to all private hire vehicles granted an exemption by Huntingdonshire District Council from the requirement to display an external identification plate (private hire vehicle licence plate).

The following conditions are in addition to the standard conditions that are required for private hire vehicles.

1. The vehicle licence plate and exemption notice are issued by the council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and shall remain the property of the council.
2. The vehicle will be issued with a licence plate which must be kept within the vehicle at all times, fixed to the inside of the boot or tailgate.
3. Any vehicle granted an exemption from displaying a vehicle licence plate will be required to have the exemption notice kept within the glove compartment of the vehicle.
4. In the event of loss or damage rendering the plate or exemption notice unserviceable, the operator shall make immediate application for a replacement for which a fee is payable.
5. The plate and exemption notice issued by the council must be carried in the vehicle at all times and must be produced to an authorised officer of the council or any police officer upon request.
6. When issued with an exemption notice, the vehicle will not be required to display door signs as the council would otherwise require a private hire vehicle to display.
7. When issued with an exemption notice, a taximeter must not be installed in the vehicle.
8. The operator will not display in or on the vehicle any advertisement, signage, logos or insignia advertising the operating company or the vehicle's status as a private hire vehicle.

9. The operator will not display in or on the vehicle any advertisement, signage or logos or insignia advertising third party companies, products or services.
10. During the period of the exemption notice the driver will not be required to wear a private hire driver's badge, but must have it available for immediate inspection by an authorised officer of the council or any police officer on request.
11. During the period of the exemption notice the driver of the vehicle, whilst engaged in private hire work will be smartly dressed in either a formal chauffeur's uniform or business suit with collar and tie.
12. The operator will notify the council immediately of any change of use of the vehicle.
13. The vehicle must be used for chauffeur services and 'executive hire' only and not for private hire purposes (i.e not for 'normal' airport journey's, educational transport, County Council, Social Services or daily private hire use, in which case a licence plate and door signs must be displayed).
14. The driver and passenger front side window glass and front windscreen must be clear. However tinted windows can be fitted to the rear side and rear window glass of the vehicle so long as they are factory fitted, comply with current legislation and comply with any current private hire vehicle licence conditions.
15. An exemption notice will cease to have effect on the sale or transfer of the vehicle to another party. The person to whom the exemption is granted must inform the council of the sale or transfer of ownership immediately and in writing. The exemption notice must be returned to the council along with the vehicle licence plate.

Failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in the Council suspending, revoking or refusing to renew the licence and in certain circumstances, in prosecution. There is a right of appeal to the Magistrates Court.