



Private Hire Operators

1. OPERATORS LICENCE

No person shall operate any vehicle as a Private Hire Vehicle in the Chichester District Council area without having a current Private Hire Operators Licence. This is in addition to the separate requirement for a vehicle and or drivers licence.

'Operate' means in the course of business to make provision for the invitation or acceptance of bookings for a Private Hire Vehicle.

2. ELIGIBILITY

New applicants must reside or have business premises within Chichester District Council area and must provide information concerning their previous business activities, history of any previous Operators Licence or application, and any conviction(s) recorded against him. Satisfactory references will be required.

Operators will not be eligible to hold an Operators Licence in the event of their moving residence or business premises to an address outside Chichester District Council area.

3. LICENCE CONDITIONS

Licences are granted subject to standard conditions. In particular operators of Private Hire Vehicles should be aware of the requirement to keep records and maintain standards.

4. SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENCES

Section 62 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Act provides for the suspension, revocation or refusal to renew an Operators Licence on the grounds specified in that section. A Right of Appeal exists to the Magistrates Court.

5. PRIVATE HIRE OPERATION OUTSIDE THE LICENSING DISTRICT

Where a Private Hire Vehicle and driver are licensed in another District (e.g. an adjoining Authority) that vehicle may be used for Private Hire within this District or vice versa if pre-booked. The same Authority must license both the driver and vehicle. However, it is unlawful to sub-contract work to the holder of an Operators Licence outside Chichester District Council area.

6. ACCIDENTS TO PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

Any accident to a Private Hire Vehicle causing damage materially affecting the safety, performance or appearance of the vehicle, or the comfort or convenience of the persons

carried therein, must be reported to the Council as soon as practicable and in any case within 72 hours of the occurrence.

7. OFFENCES

Apart from the powers of the Council to suspend licences failure to comply with any of the requirements of the 1976 Act may be dealt with as an offence punishable by fines on conviction.