

My Ref:
Your Ref:
Contact: [REDACTED]
Date: 25 February 2022

Nottingham City Council
Commercial & Operations
Licensing
Central Police Station
Byron House
Maid Marian Way
Nottingham
NG1 6HS
Tel: 07572262275

Dear Sir/Madam,

Amendment of Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence Conditions – Gedling Borough Council

I refer to the request to change the above condition for the removal of the requirement for a roof sign to be affixed to the roof of a Gedling Borough Council hackney Carriage and would make the following representations.

As a neighbouring licensing authority, Nottingham City Centre attracts licensed Private Hire Vehicles and Hackney Carriages from a number of different authorities and it is very important from a public safety aspect and for purposes of compliance and enforcement to be able to readily identify these vehicles.

Nottingham City Council will only licence a Hackney Carriage if a vehicle is permitted to be licensed by Transport for London i.e. they are required to be a London style Hackney Carriage, painted black with a white roof and white crests on the front doors, making them easily recognisable to both members of the public and authorised officers.

Currently, Gedling Borough Council does not prescribe such a requirement for vehicle design and the only way to be able to distinguish them from a Private Hire Vehicle is the vehicle licence plates fitted to the front and rear of the vehicle which are only visible when viewing the vehicle from the front and rear and the roof sign which can be seen from anywhere the vehicle is viewed and from a distance.

Roof signs also provide a distinguishable feature for both the public and authorised officers with the identification of the type of vehicle licence under which the vehicle and driver are operating.

I would also like to reference section 48 a) (ii) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 which states that a district council shall not grant a licence unless

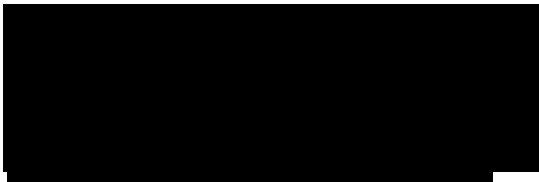
they are satisfied that the vehicle is not of such design and appearance as to lead any person to believe that the vehicle is a hackney carriage.

This legislation is designed to prevent the public being confused between a Private Hire Vehicle and a Hackney Carriage.

As Gedling Borough Council does not require Hackney Carriages to be of a particular design both their licensed Hackney Carriages and Private Hire Vehicles look very similar with the only the roof sign providing easy recognition between the two types of licensed vehicle.

If the Committee does decide to remove the condition that roof signs are displayed on Gedling licensed hackney Carriages, I would request that consideration be given to introducing a livery instead in order that the distinction between Gedling licensed hackney Carriages and Private Hire vehicles is maintained.

Yours sincerely

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