

Appendix 4 – Stretched Limousines, Vintage/Classic Vehicles and Fire Engines – Licensing and Conditions

Introduction

1.1. These conditions made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 are specific to a stretched limousine. A stretch limousine is usually a saloon type vehicle that has undergone an increase in length by extending the wheelbase after manufacture. The purpose of these conditions is to protect public safety; they apply in addition to the Councils standard vehicle conditions

General Conditions

2.1 Seating capacity must be limited to eight passengers even if the vehicle is capable of carrying more than eight passengers.

2.2 All Operators will be required to sign a declaration stating that the vehicle will not carry more than eight passengers and at the time of the booking, this restriction will be explained to the hirer.

2.3 No passengers will be carried in the front compartment

2.4 Every seat shall be at least 400mm in width measured along the seat base.

2.5 Every seat shall have fitted a suitable seat belt or restraint.

2.6 It is the driver's responsibility to ensure that passengers use seat belts provided when the vehicle is moving.

2.7 Passengers must remain seated when the vehicle is moving.

2.8 Children under the age of 14 years shall not be carried in a stretched limousine unless accompanied by a responsible adult, excluding the driver.

2.9 No alcohol shall be provided in the vehicle unless there is in force an appropriate licence permitting the sale or supply of same.

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Vehicle Conditions

- 2.1 A valid SVA (single vehicle approval) certificate must be provided for the vehicle.
 - 2.2 A valid certificate of conversion by an approved USA converter (either a Qualified Vehicle Modifier (QVM) or a Cadillac Master Coachbuilder (CMC) must be provided for the vehicle.
 - 2.3 A DVLA V5 or equivalent shall be produced to confirm registration. A plate affixed to the door pillar shall confirm the weight of the vehicle.
 - 2.4 The vehicle shall be equipped with a minimum of four road wheels and a full sized spare wheel.
 - 2.5 The vehicle will be equipped with tyres designed and manufactured to support the maximum permitted axle weight for the axle when the vehicle is driven at the maximum speed.
 - 2.6 Seat belts must be fitted in accordance with the current Road Vehicle (Construction and Use) Regulations.
 - 2.7 Tinted glass shall conform to the legal requirements of the current Road Vehicle (Construction and Use) Regulations.
 - 2.8 A stretch limousine will be subject to a twice yearly vehicle inspection, at intervals to be specified by the Council, at an authorised testing station. A third test may be required, if deemed appropriate.
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Vintage/Classic Cars

These conditions apply in addition to the Council's standard vehicle conditions –

- 3.1 A Single Vehicle Approval (SVA) certificate or equivalent for the vehicle is to be submitted.
- 3.2 Seat belts complying with current legislation must be fitted in respect of each passenger seat.

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3.3 The vehicle will be equipped with tyres designed and manufactured to support the maximum permitted axle weight for the axle when the vehicle is driven at the maximum speed. The full size spare wheel that is required, must also be fitted with the same class of tyre.

3.4 Vehicles licensed under these conditions will be subject to a twice yearly vehicle inspection, at intervals to be specified by the Council, at its authorised testing station. A third test may be required if deemed appropriate.

Fire Engines/Novelty Engines

These types of vehicle are licensed in general accordance with the standard Hackney Carriage / Private Hire vehicle and Driver conditions. The conditions that follow also apply to these types of vehicle-

4.1 The vehicle will be examined and issued with a certificate of fitness (in the form of an MOT or a HGV equivalent) prior to licensing. A further test, at the discretion of the Council, will be then be required during the twelve month validity of the certificate.

4.2 The driver shall hold a full driving licence suitable for the vehicle concerned.

4.3 Seating capacity must be limited to eight passengers even if the vehicle is capable of carrying more than eight passengers.

4.4 All Operators will be required to sign a declaration stating that the vehicle will not carry more than eight passengers and at the time of the booking, this restriction will be explained to the hirer.

4.5 Children under the age of 14 years shall not be carried in the vehicle unless accompanied by a responsible adult, excluding the driver.

4.6 Suitable steps will be carried on the vehicle to assist access and egress from the passenger compartment.

4.7 All passengers must enter or leave the vehicle by the passenger doorway adjacent to the pavement.

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4.8 Seating is to be secured anchored to the floor and seatbelts complying with current legislation must be fitted in respect of each passenger seat.

4.9 Suitable signage shall be displayed in the passenger compartment advising passengers to wear seat belts.

4.10 An audible alarm system shall be fitted to the passenger compartment doors, to alert the driver should the door be opened, and shall be in a tested working condition whenever the vehicle is carrying passengers.

4.11 The floor area of the vehicle must be kept unobstructed at all times.

4.12 All external lockers on utility vehicles must be kept locked at all times.

4.13 In the case of the use of a fire engine all reflective tape and lettering is to be removed. Blue lights and the siren are to be disabled. No person involved in the operation of the vehicle is to wear a uniform or hat which may give the public the impression that the individual is a member of the fire service.

4.14 No alcohol shall be provided in the vehicle unless there is in force an appropriate licence permitting the sale or supply of same.

Implementation of the Policy - The Policy will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. Any proposed significant changes will be subject to full consultation; minor amendments which do not affect the substance of the Policy may be made without consultation.