

Appendix E

Chauffeur/ Executive Hire (discreet plates)

- 1.1 Any vehicle proposed to be used for Executive Hire must be licensed as a Private Hire Vehicle. Vehicles used for this purpose must meet the requirements for Private Hire Vehicles. An application for a discreet plate must be made and approved by the Council. A discreet plate means that the vehicle does not need to display the same number of signs that a standard vehicle is required to do, however driver must also have in the vehicle a copy of a letter from the council confirming that the vehicle does not have to display a plate. This must be produced on request to an authorised officer or police officer in uniform. Licences will be conditioned to reflect any restrictions that the Council feels necessary.
- 1.2 Drivers of Executive Vehicles must complete the licensing application process in the same way as any other licensed driver.
- 1.3 Vehicles with discreet plates must never be used for day to day Private Hire work.
- 1.4 Applicants wishing to apply for a discreet plate must satisfy the following Council requirements;
 - a) Vehicles accepted include luxury brands such as Mercedes Benz, BMW, Jaguar, Rolls Royce, Bentley and Lexus. The highest specification executive type cars from other manufacturers may also be considered. American style stretched vehicles will normally qualify for discreet plates.
 - b) The vehicle must be in immaculate condition with no visible defects, dents or blemishes to the external bodywork or internal trim.
 - c) The type of work undertaken is 'executive' in nature. This would mean that the vehicle is used specifically for clients that for security reasons would not want the vehicle to be identifiable. Documentary evidence of contracts will be required.

Application for exemption will be made to the Licensing Authority in writing by a person holding a Private Hire operator's licence issued by the Council. The application must be accompanied by documentation to evidence compliance with points a) and c).

Provided that conditions a) and c) are satisfactorily met, an appropriate appointment will be made to inspect the vehicle to satisfy the requirement of clause b).

If all points above are satisfied discreet plates will be issued.

The Council may immediately remove this exemption if evidence suggests that the vehicle is being used for work that does not satisfy the need for an exemption.