

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

S.I. No.[•] of 20[•]

**SMALL PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLE (CONSOLIDATION AND REFORM) REGULATIONS
20[•].**

SMALL PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLE (CONSOLIDATION AND REFORM) REGULATIONS
20[•]

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

PART 1 – PRELIMINARY AND GENERAL

1. Citation
2. Commencement
3. Definitions and interpretation

PART 2 – LICENSING OF DRIVERS OF SMALL PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

4. Application for new licence to drive small public service vehicles
5. Small Public Service Vehicle Skills Development Programme
6. Form and duration of licence to drive small public service vehicles
7. Application for renewal of licence to drive small public service vehicles
8. Licence to drive a local area hackney
9. Exemption from requirement to hold a licence to drive small public service vehicles

PART 3 – LICENSING OF SMALL PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

10. One licence, one vehicle
11. Grant of small public service vehicle licence
12. Renewal of small public service vehicle licence
13. Period of validity of small public service vehicle licence
14. Change of vehicle
15. Reactivation of expired licence
16. Death of licence holder
17. Form of licence certificate
18. Surrender of licence
19. Insurance
20. Local area hackney licence

21. Exemption from requirement to hold a small public service vehicle licence

PART 4 - VEHICLE STANDARDS

- 22. Standard taxi vehicle requirements
- 23. Standard hackney and local area hackney vehicle requirements
- 24. Wheelchair accessible taxi vehicle requirements
- 25. Wheelchair accessible hackney vehicle requirements
- 26. Limousine vehicle requirements
- 27. Modified vehicles
- 28. Prohibition on fitment of taximeter
- 29. Vehicle age requirements
- 30. Mutual recognition
- 31. Prohibition on certain vehicles
- 32. Tinted windows
- 33. Taxi branding

PART 5 - DUTIES OF HOLDERS OF WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE HACKNEY LICENCES AND
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TAXI LICENCES

- 34. Information to be provided to the Authority
- 35. Maintenance of records of bookings
- 36. Priority to persons with disabilities

PART 6 - DUTIES OF DRIVERS OF SMALL PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

- 37. Duties of drivers of small public service vehicles
- 38. Guide dogs

PART 7 - OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

- 39. Maximum hours of operation
- 40. Limitation on number of passengers

41. Defective small public service vehicle
42. Carriage of dangerous substances
43. Tamper proof disc
44. In-vehicle information
45. Taxi roof sign
46. Driver identification
47. Prohibition on advertising
48. Operation of small public service vehicle by another person
49. Rental or lease of small public service vehicle to another person
50. Notification of driving of a taxi

PART 8 – COMMENCEMENT OF HIRE AND PAYMENT OF FARES

51. Commencement of hire and standing for hire
52. Taximeter
53. Calibration of taximeters to reflect maximum fares order
54. Booking fee
55. Taxi receipts
56. Hackney and limousine receipts
57. Local area knowledge
58. Hire of hackney

PART 9 – LICENSING OF DISPATCH OPERATORS

59. Requirement for dispatch operators to be licensed
60. Grant or renewal of dispatch operator licence
61. Duration of dispatch operator licence
62. Obligations of dispatch operators

PART 10 - PENALTIES

63. Penal regulations
64. Substantial breach of regulations
65. Prescribed amount of fixed payment
66. Form of notice

SCHEDULE 1- Fees

SCHEDULE 2 – General Vehicle Requirements for Taxis

SCHEDULE 3 – General Vehicle Requirements for Hackneys

SCHEDULE 4 – Additional Requirements for Wheelchair Accessible Taxis and Wheelchair Accessible Hackneys

SCHEDULE 5 – General Vehicle Requirements for Limousines

SCHEDULE 6 – Taxi Branding

SCHEDULE 7 – Wheelchair and Occupant Restraint Belt Anchorage Requirements (Static Test)

SCHEDULE 8 – Fixed Payment Offences – Prescribed Amounts

SCHEDULE 9 – Form of Fixed Payment Notice

SCHEDULE 10 – Maximum Fares

The National Transport Authority, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections [7, 8 and 20] of the Taxi Regulation Act 2013 (No. 37 of 2013), hereby makes the following regulations:

Notice of the making of this Statutory Instrument was published in "Iris Oifigiúil" of [•].

PART 1 - PRELIMINARY AND GENERAL

Citation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Small Public Service Vehicle (Consolidation and Reform) Regulations 20[•].

Commencement

2. These Regulations come into operation on _____.

Definitions and interpretation

3. (1) In these Regulations -

"Area Knowledge Test" means an assessment by the Authority of a person's knowledge of the geography, routes and place names of a particular geographical area and other matters relevant to the operation of a small public service vehicle in such area;

"booking fee" means a fee charged in respect of a taxi service that had been booked in advance by or on behalf of an intending passenger;

"booking service" means a service allowing intending passengers to book a small public service vehicle for one or more journeys, other than -

- (i) a marshalling arrangement for small public service vehicles in a public place, or
- (ii) the provision of booking assistance on behalf of an intending passenger at an information desk in a hotel, tourist office, airport, transport terminal or similar customer service facility.

"crew cab" has the meaning given to it in section 130 of the Finance Act 1992;

"Construction, Equipment and Use Regulations" means the Road Traffic Act (Construction, Equipment and Use of Vehicles) Regulations 1963 (as amended);

"date of first registration" means the date on which the vehicle in question was first registered in whichever country the vehicle was first registered;

"dispatch operator licence" means a licence to operate as a dispatch operator or to provide a booking service;

"hackney" includes a standard hackney, wheelchair accessible hackney and a local area hackney;

“Industry Knowledge Test” means an assessment by the Authority of a person’s knowledge of the legislation and practices applying to the licensing and operation of small public service vehicles;

“kit car” means a vehicle consisting of separately manufactured components that is assembled by the purchaser or a party other than the manufacturer;

“limousine” means a small public service vehicle in respect of which a limousine licence has been granted;

“local area hackney” means a vehicle that is licensed under Regulation 21 to operate as a hackney in respect of a specified area;

“local area hackney licence” means a small public service vehicle licence granted in respect of a local area hackney;

“local area hackney driver’s licence” means a licence granted in respect of a person to drive a local area hackney for the carriage of persons for reward;

“maximum permissible age” in relation to a small public service vehicle means the maximum age of such vehicle as determined in accordance with Regulation 31;

“modified vehicle” means a vehicle that is not a standard mass produced passenger car including –

- (i) a vehicle that has been converted from a goods or light goods vehicle without subsequent type approval,
- (ii) a vehicle that has been stretched,
- (iii) a kit car, or
- (iv) a vehicle where the seats, safety belts and safety belt anchorages are not original or the installation of these items is not original;

“off-shore island” means an island forming part of the State but which is not connected to the rest of the State by any road or bridge;

“pick-up” has the meaning given to it in section 130 of the Finance Act 1992;

“Principal Act” means the Taxi Regulation Act 2013 (No. 37 of 2013);

“registered owner” has the meaning given to it by section 3(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1961;

“Regulations of 2006” means the Road Traffic (Licensing of Drivers) Regulations 2006 (S.I. No. 537 of 2006);

“spare wheel system” means the manufacturer’s original specification supply or –

- (i) a wheel or rim fitted with a tyre suitable for use on any axle position and capable of being fitted to the vehicle for immediate use and suitable for such use, and an apparatus capable of raising any wheel fitted to the vehicle to a reasonable height from the ground; and

- (ii) such tools as are necessary for the removal or replacement of any wheel or rim fitted with a tyre referred to in paragraph (i);

“SPSV Driver Entry Test” means an assessment comprising the Industry Knowledge Test and the Area Knowledge Test in respect of a single area of operation;

“SPSV Driver’s Identity Card” means the personal identity photographic card issued by the Authority;

“SPSV Driver Display Card” means the dashboard display identity/area of operation card issued by the Authority;

“standard hackney” means a small public service vehicle in respect of which a standard hackney licence has been granted;

“standard taxi” means a street service vehicle (within the meaning of section 3 of the Act of 1961) which is not a wheelchair accessible taxi;

“taxi” includes a standard taxi and wheelchair accessible taxi;

“technical assessor” means a mechanical or automotive engineer, automotive assessor or a person with similar qualifications who, by reason of his or her competence, experience and independence, is deemed by the Authority to be an appropriate person to assess the fitness and safety of a mechanically propelled vehicle;

“technical assessor's basic report” means a declaration, in a form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, by a technical assessor that following a visual inspection of a vehicle the vehicle, in its modified state, complies with the Construction, Equipment and Use Regulations and the relevant SPSV vehicle standards;

“technical assessor's full report” means a declaration, in a form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, by a technical assessor that following a visual inspection of a vehicle and professional review of the accompanying test data that the vehicle, in its modified state, complies with the relevant SPSV vehicle standards and the essential technical provisions of the relevant type approval regulations and the Construction, Equipment and Use Regulations for category M1 passenger cars;

“technical assessor's LPG report” means a declaration, in a form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, by a technical assessor that following a visual inspection of a vehicle and the component or system adaptations to the vehicle for the use of liquefied petroleum gas or compressed natural gas, the adaptation complies with the Construction, Equipment and Use Regulations;

“test certificate” has the meaning given to it by the Road Traffic (National Car Test) Regulations 2009 (S.I. No. 567 of 2009);

“type-approval” means the process of certification whereby a type of vehicle satisfies the relevant administrative provisions and technical requirements imposed by, or pursuant to, Directive 2007/46/EC;

“VDA method” means the method of luggage volume measurement of the German Association of the Automotive Industry, *Verband die Automobil Industrie*;

“VIN” means vehicle identification number being a fixed combination of characters assigned to each vehicle by the manufacturer marked on the manufacturer’s plate and on the chassis, frame or other similar structure;

“wheelchair accessible hackney” means a small public service vehicle constructed or adapted for the carriage of wheelchair users seated in their wheelchairs in respect of which a wheelchair accessible hackney licence is in force; and

“wheelchair accessible taxi” means a street service vehicle (within the meaning of section 3 of the Act of 1961) which is constructed or adapted for the carriage of wheelchair users seated in their wheelchairs;

- (2) A word or expression that is used in these Regulations and is also used in the Principal Act has, unless the context otherwise requires, the same meaning as it has in the Principal Act.

PART 2 – LICENSING OF DRIVERS OF SMALL PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

Application for new licence to drive small public service vehicles

4. Subject to Regulation 9, an application for the grant of a new licence to drive small public service vehicles shall be accompanied by -
- (a) evidence that the applicant -
 - (i) holds a valid driving licence without endorsement, and
 - (ii) has held the driving licence referred to in sub-paragraph (i) on a continuous basis during the twelve month period immediately preceding the date of his or her application,
 - (b) evidence that the appropriate fee specified in Schedule 1 has been paid to the Authority,
 - (c) an undertaking that, if the licence is granted, the applicant shall not drive a small public service vehicle for more than eleven hours in any one day in any period of three consecutive days,
 - (d) a valid tax clearance certificate for the time being in force in respect of the applicant under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997,
 - (e) evidence of the successful completion by the applicant of the SPSV Driver Entry Test for the chosen area of operation,
 - (f) the information required under Section 11 of the Principal Act in relation to any other occupation,
 - (g) a declaration by the applicant that -
 - (i) his or her health does not affect, to a material extent, his or her ability to drive a small public service vehicle, and
 - (ii) he or she is not taking, on a regular basis, drugs or medications which would be likely to cause the driving of a vehicle by him or her in a public place to be a source of danger to the public,
 - (iii) a declaration by the applicant confirming that he or she has not been convicted of any of the offences specified in the Schedule to the Principal Act, and
 - (iv) such other items as may be directed from time to time by the licensing authority.

SPSV Driver Entry Test

5. (1) Subject to paragraph (3) and Regulation 9, an applicant for a new licence to drive small public service vehicles shall undertake the SPSV Driver Entry Test relevant to the area of operation being applied for.
- (2) On the successful completion of the SPSV Driver Entry Test referred to in subsection (1), the Authority shall issue a certificate to the applicant in such form as may be

determined by the Authority which shall include confirmation of the relevant operational area for standing or plying for hire in respect of which the applicant has successfully completed the Area Knowledge Test.

- (3) An applicant for a new licence to drive small public service vehicles who –
- (i) previously held such a licence (other than a licence granted under Regulation 9) during the twelve months prior to the date of his or her application, and
 - (ii) previously successfully completed the SPSV Driver Entry Test in respect of the area of operation being applied for,
- shall not be required to repeat the SPSV Driver Entry Test.
- (4) A holder of a licence to drive small public service vehicles (other than a licence granted under Regulation 9) may apply for authorisation to stand or ply for hire in additional areas to those authorised on his or her existing licence. Such authorisation shall be granted following the successful completion by the applicant of the Area Knowledge Test relevant to the area of operation being applied for.

Form and duration of licence to drive small public service vehicles

6. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a licence to drive small public service vehicles granted by the licensing authority shall be in such form as may be determined by the licensing authority.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), a licence to drive small public service vehicles granted by the licensing authority shall state –
- (a) that the named holder is licensed to drive small public service vehicles,
 - (b) the date on which the licence was granted,
 - (c) the name and address of the person to whom the licence was granted,
 - (d) the licence number,
 - (e) the expiry date of the licence,
 - (f) the operational area or areas in respect of which the licence holder is licensed to stand or ply for hire, and
 - (g) such other items as the licensing authority may determine.
- (3) A licence to drive small public service vehicles shall remain in force until the earlier of –
- (a) the expiry of a period of five years from the date of its grant or renewal,
 - (b) the surrender of the licence by the holder,
 - (c) the revocation or suspension of the licence, and
 - (d) the disqualification of the licence holder pursuant to section 30 or 38 of the Principal Act.

Tax Clearance Status

7. (1) The holder of a licence to drive small public service vehicles shall maintain in force during the full period of such licence a valid tax clearance certificate under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 in respect of the licence holder.
- (2) If following a written request to the licence holder to produce to the Authority a valid tax clearance certificate under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 in respect of the licence holder, the licence holder fails within the three month period following such notification to produce such valid tax clearance certificate, the licensing authority may revoke or suspend the licence pursuant to section 12 of the Principal Act.

Application for renewal of licence to drive small public service vehicles

8. (1) Subject to Regulation 9, an application for the renewal of a licence to drive small public service vehicles shall be made no earlier than three months prior to the expiry date of the existing licence and shall be accompanied by -
 - (a) evidence that the applicant holds a valid driving licence without endorsement,
 - (b) evidence that the appropriate fee specified in Schedule 1 has been paid to the Authority,
 - (c) an undertaking that, if the licence is granted, the applicant shall not drive a small public service vehicle for more than eleven hours in any one day in any period of three consecutive days,
 - (d) a valid tax clearance certificate for the time being in force in respect of the applicant under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997,
 - (e) the information required under Section 11 of the Principal Act in relation to any other occupation,
 - (f) a declaration by the applicant that -
 - (i) his or her health does not affect, to a material extent, his or her ability to drive a small public service vehicle, and
 - (ii) he or she is not taking, on a regular basis, drugs or medications which would be likely to cause the driving of a vehicle by him or her in a public place to be a source of danger to the public,
 - (g) a declaration by the applicant confirming that he or she has not been convicted of any of the offences specified in the Schedule to the Principal Act, and
 - (h) such other items as may be directed from time to time by the licensing authority.
- (2) Where an application in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1) for the renewal of a licence to drive small public service vehicles has been received by the

licensing authority not later than six weeks prior to the expiry date of the existing licence, the provisions of section 9(16) of the Principal Act shall apply.

- (3) An application for the renewal of a licence to drive small public service vehicles shall not be made later than one year after the expiry date of the previous licence.

Licence to drive a local area hackney

9. (1) An application for the grant of a new local area hackney driver's licence shall be accompanied by -
- (a) evidence that the applicant holds a local area hackney licence,
 - (b) evidence that the applicant -
 - (i) holds a valid driving licence without endorsement, and
 - (ii) has held the driving licence referred to in sub-paragraph (i) on a continuous basis during the 12 month period immediately preceding the date of his or her application,
 - (c) evidence that the appropriate fee specified in Schedule 1 has been paid to the Authority,
 - (d) a valid tax clearance certificate for the time being in force in respect of the applicant under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997,
 - (e) the information required under Section 11 of the Principal Act in relation to any other occupation,
 - (f) a declaration by the applicant that -
 - (i) his or her health does not affect, to a material extent, his or her ability to drive a small public service vehicle, and
 - (ii) he or she is not taking, on a regular basis, drugs or medicaments which would be likely to cause the driving of a vehicle by him or her in a public place to be a source of danger to the public,
 - (g) a declaration by the applicant confirming that he or she has not been convicted of any of the offences specified in the Schedule to the Principal Act,
 - (h) evidence, in a form and substance satisfactory to the licensing authority, that the application is for substantially the same area as that for which they hold the licence referred to in paragraph (1)(a), and
 - (i) such other items as may be directed from time to time by the licensing authority.
- (2) Where an application in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1) for the renewal of a local area hackney driver's licence has been received by the licensing authority not later than six weeks prior to the expiry date of the existing licence, the provisions of section 9(16) of the Principal Act shall apply.

- (3) A local area hackney driver's licence granted under this Regulation shall remain in force until the earlier of -
 - (a) the expiry of a period of three years from the date of its initial grant,
 - (b) the surrender of the licence by the holder,
 - (c) the revocation or suspension of the licence,
 - (d) the holder of the licence obtaining any other category of small public service vehicle licence other than a local area hackney licence, and
 - (e) the disqualification of the licence holder pursuant to section 30 or 38 of the Principal Act.
- (4) Where a local area hackney driver's licence expires by virtue of the provisions in paragraph (3)(a) an application for the grant of a new licence may be made.
- (5) A person shall not drive a local area hackney for the carriage of passengers for reward unless he or she holds a valid licence to drive small public service vehicles or a valid local area hackney driver's licence.
- (6) The holder of a local area hackney driver's licence shall not drive a small public service vehicle, other than a local area hackney, for the carriage of passengers for reward.

Mandatory Area Knowledge Test

10. (1) Where the Authority forms the view that the holder of a licence to drive a small public service vehicle may not have adequate knowledge of the geography, routes and place names of an area in respect of which he or she is licensed to stand or ply for hire, the Authority may require the licence holder to complete the Area Knowledge Test in respect of such operational area.
- (2) In forming the view that the holder of a licence to drive a small public service vehicle may not have adequate knowledge of the geography, routes and place names of an area in respect of which he or she is licensed to stand or ply for hire, the Authority shall be entitled to take into account -
 - (a) complaints received by the Authority in relation to the particular licence holder,
 - (b) information provided by authorised persons in relation to the particular licence holder, and
 - (c) such other information as the Authority considers relevant.
- (3) Where the Authority requires the licence holder to complete the Area Knowledge Test in respect of such operational area, such test shall be provided by the Authority without charge to the licence holder. The licence holder shall be required to complete such test within two months of being so required. Should the licence holder undertake but fail to successfully complete the Area Knowledge test in respect of the operational area the subject of the test, he or she shall be provided with a second such test without charge to the licence holder. The licence holder shall be required to complete such second test within one month of the date of the first test.

- (4) Where the licence holder fails to successfully complete either of the Area Knowledge Tests in section (3) in respect of the operational area the subject of the test, he or she shall be afforded a further one month following the completion of the second test in which to successfully complete the Area Knowledge Test at his or her own expense in respect of that operational area.
- (5) If during the four month period commencing on the date on which the licence holder was requested by the Authority to complete the Area Knowledge test in respect of the particular operational area, the licence holder has not successfully completed the Area Knowledge Test in respect of that operational area, the licensing authority may -
- (i) revoke the licence where the licence holder is authorised to only stand or ply for hire in the operational area the subject of the failed Area Knowledge Tests; or
 - (ii) where the licence holder is authorised to stand or ply for hire in an operational area other than the operational area the subject of the failed Area Knowledge Tests, amend the licence to exclude the licence holder from standing or plying for hire in the operational area the subject of the failed Area Knowledge Tests.

Exemption from requirement to hold a small public service vehicle driver licence

11. TO BE PROVIDED BY HC

PART 3 – LICENSING OF SMALL PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

One licence, one vehicle

12. (1) Only one small public service vehicle licence shall be in force in respect of a vehicle at any time.
- (2) No small public service vehicle licence shall be granted in relation to, or otherwise associated with, a vehicle in respect of which a small public service vehicle licence is already in force.

Grant of new small public service vehicle licences

13. (1) Subject to Regulation 22, an application for the grant of a new small public service vehicle licence shall be made to the Authority in accordance with this Regulation and accompanied by the fee specified in Schedule 1.
- (2) Where an application for the grant of a new small public service vehicle licence is made to the Authority, the Authority may make a conditional offer of the grant of the new licence in respect of a vehicle provided that –
 - (a) in the case of a modified vehicle, the application is accompanied by evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the vehicle to which the application relates complies with the requirements of Regulation 30, and
 - (b) in the case of an application in relation to a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence, the applicant provides –
 - (i) the names of any persons, including the licence holder, proposed to drive or use the vehicle to carry passengers for reward,
 - (ii) the proposed contact details for the purposes of making a booking in respect of the vehicle,
 - (iii) the areas of the State in which the licence holder proposes to drive or use the vehicle to carry passengers for reward, and
 - (iv) the days and times during which the licence holder proposes to make the vehicle available to carry passengers for reward.
- (3) In respect of an application for the grant of a new small public service vehicle licence other than a limousine licence, the Authority may grant such a licence only where the vehicle the subject of the application has not passed the tenth anniversary of the date of its first registration and –
 - (a) the vehicle the subject of the application complies with the specifications relating to wheelchair accessible taxis or wheelchair accessible hackneys, as appropriate, contained in these Regulations; or
 - (b) the application is in respect of a local area hackney licence.
- (4) Where the Authority has made a conditional offer under paragraph (2), the Authority may grant a small public service vehicle licence where, within a period to be specified by the Authority as part of such offer, the applicant provides –

- (a) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that a test certificate has been issued not more than 60 days prior to the date of the application in respect of the vehicle the subject of the application,
- (b) a valid tax clearance certificate for the time being in force in respect of the applicant under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997,
- (c) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the vehicle the subject of the application is covered by insurance provided by a vehicle insurer (within the meaning of section 58 of the Act of 1961) in respect of passengers carried for reward in such vehicle,
- (d) a declaration that the applicant is not prohibited from holding a small public service vehicle licence under Regulation 23,
- (e) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the applicant is -
 - (i) the registered owner of the vehicle the subject of the application, or
 - (ii) legally entitled to the use and possession of the vehicle the subject of the application for a period of not less than 12 months from the date of the application, and
- (f) the Authority is satisfied, following an assessment of the vehicle by or on behalf of the Authority, that the vehicle meets the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, provided that where the Authority has determined that a specific vehicle type or model does not comply with the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, the Authority may refuse to grant the licence without an assessment of the specific vehicle.

Renewal of small public service vehicle licence

14. (1) Subject to Regulation 22, an application for the renewal of a small public service vehicle licence shall be made to the Authority in accordance with this Regulation no earlier than sixty days prior to the expiry date of the existing licence and accompanied by the relevant fee specified in Schedule 1.
- (2) A small public service vehicle licence may only be renewed by the Authority where—
- (a) applicant provides -
 - (i) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that a test certificate has been issued not more than 60 days prior to the date of the application in respect of the vehicle the subject of the application,
 - (ii) a valid tax clearance certificate for the time being in force in respect of the applicant under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997,
 - (iii) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the vehicle the subject of the application is covered by insurance provided by a vehicle insurer (within the meaning of section 58 of the

- Act of 1961) in respect of passengers carried for reward in such vehicle,
- (iv) a declaration that the applicant is not prohibited from holding a small public service vehicle licence under Regulation 23,
 - (v) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority that the applicant is -
 - (A) the registered owner of the vehicle the subject of the application, or
 - (B) legally entitled to the use and possession of the vehicle the subject of the application for a period of not less than 12 months from the date of the application,
 - (b) the applicant provides a declaration that the vehicle has not been modified since its last assessment by or on behalf of the Authority, or where the vehicle has been so modified, the application is accompanied by evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the vehicle to which the application relates complies with the requirements of Regulation 30,
 - (c) in the case of an application in relation to a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence, the applicant provides the information required under Regulation 36, and
 - (d) the Authority is satisfied, following an assessment of the vehicle by or on behalf of the Authority, that the vehicle meets the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, provided that where the Authority has determined that a specific vehicle type or model does not comply with the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, the Authority may refuse to grant the licence without an assessment of the specific vehicle.
- (3) Where a application in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) for the renewal of a small public service vehicle licence has been received by the licensing authority not later than four weeks prior to the expiry date of the existing licence, the provisions of section 9(16) of the Principal Act shall apply.

Period of validity of small public service vehicle licence

15. (1) A new small public service vehicle licence granted by the Authority under Regulation 13 or Regulation 22 shall expire on the earlier of -
- (a) the date falling one year after the date on which it was granted except where the licence is a limousine licence in respect of a vehicle that has passed the tenth anniversary of the date of its first registration in which case the relevant date shall be the date falling six months after the date on which it was granted,
 - (b) the date upon which the vehicle reaches its maximum permissible age,
 - (c) the surrender of the licence by the holder,
 - (d) the revocation of the licence, or

- (e) the licence holder ceasing to be legally entitled to the use and possession of the vehicle to which the small public service vehicle licence relates.
- (2) Subject to paragraph (3), a small public service vehicle licence renewed by the Authority under Regulation 14 or Regulation 22 shall expire on the earlier of –
- (a) where the licence is renewed before the expiry date specified on the licence, the date falling one year after such expiry date,
 - (b) where the licence is renewed after the expiry date specified on the licence, the date falling one year after the date on which it was renewed,
 - (c) in the case of a licence issued under Regulation 22, the date falling three years after the date on which the licence was first granted,
 - (d) the date upon which the vehicle reaches its maximum permissible age,
 - (e) the surrender of the licence by the holder,
 - (f) the revocation of the licence, or
 - (g) the licence holder ceasing to be legally entitled to the use and possession of the vehicle to which the small public service vehicle licence relates.
- (3) Subject to paragraph (4), where the Authority renews a small public service vehicle licence in respect of a vehicle which has, on the date of renewal of the licence, reached the tenth or later anniversary of the date of its first registration, such licence shall expire on the earlier of –
- (a) where the licence is renewed before the expiry date specified on the licence, the date falling six months after such expiry date,
 - (b) where the licence is renewed after the expiry date specified on the licence, the date falling six months after the date on which it was renewed,
 - (c) the date upon which the vehicle reaches its maximum permissible age,
 - (d) the surrender of the licence by the holder,
 - (e) the revocation of the licence, or
 - (f) the licence holder ceasing to be legally entitled to the use and possession of the vehicle to which the small public service vehicle licence relates.
- (4) Where a small public service vehicle licence is renewed in respect of a vehicle referred to in paragraph (3) that is used solely on an off-shore island, such licence shall expire on the earlier of –
- (a) where the licence is renewed before the expiry date specified on the licence, the date falling one year after such expiry date,
 - (b) where the licence is renewed after the expiry date specified on the licence, the date falling one year after the date on which it was renewed,
 - (c) the date upon which the vehicle reaches its maximum permissible age,

- (d) the surrender of the licence by the holder,
 - (e) the revocation of the licence, or
 - (f) the licence holder ceasing to be legally entitled to the use and possession of the vehicle to which the small public service vehicle licence relates.
- (5) A person shall not apply to the Authority for the grant of a small public service vehicle licence in respect of a vehicle that has reached its maximum permissible age.
- (6) Where a local area hackney licence expires by virtue of the provisions in paragraph (2)(c), an application for the grant of a new licence may be made in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 22.

Change of vehicle

16. (1) An application for the continuance in force of a small public service vehicle licence in respect of a different vehicle shall be made to the Authority accompanied by the fee specified in Schedule 1.
- (2) The Authority may approve the continuance in force of a small public service vehicle licence in respect of a different vehicle where -
- (a) the applicant provides -
 - (i) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that a test certificate has been issued not more than 60 days prior to the date of the application in respect of the vehicle the subject of the application,
 - (ii) a valid tax clearance certificate for the time being in force in respect of the applicant under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997,
 - (iii) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the vehicle the subject of the application is covered by insurance provided by a vehicle insurer (within the meaning of section 58 of the Act of 1961) in respect of passengers carried for reward in such vehicle,
 - (iv) a declaration that the applicant is not prohibited from holding a small public service vehicle licence under Regulation 23,
 - (v) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority that the applicant is:
 - (A) the registered owner of the vehicle the subject of the application, or
 - (B) legally entitled to the use and possession of the vehicle the subject of the application for a period of not less than 12 months from the date of the application,
 - (b) in the case of a modified vehicle, the application is accompanied by evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the vehicle to which the application relates complies with the requirements of Regulation 30,

- (c) in the case of an application in relation to a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence, the applicant provides the information required under Regulation 36, and
 - (d) the Authority is satisfied, following an assessment of the vehicle by or on behalf of the Authority, that the vehicle meets the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, provided that where the Authority has determined that a specific vehicle type or model does not comply with the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, the Authority may refuse to grant the continuance in force without an assessment of the specific vehicle.
- (3) Except in the case of a limousine licence, the Authority shall not approve an application under paragraph (1) where the vehicle in respect of which it is proposed to continue the licence in force has passed the tenth anniversary of the date of its first registration.
 - (4) Where the Authority approves the continuance in force of a small public service vehicle licence in respect of a different vehicle, the licence is deemed to have been renewed by the Authority under Regulation 14 with effect from the date of such approval.
 - (5) Where a small public service vehicle licence is continued in force in respect of a different vehicle under this Regulation, and, within eight weeks of such continuation, the original vehicle is reinstated on the licence, the licence holder may apply to the Authority for a refund of fifty per cent of the fee paid by the applicant under paragraph (1).
 - (6) Subject to (7), in the case of a standard taxi licence which has previously been continued in force in respect of another party since 8 June 2010, the Authority may only grant an application under paragraph (1) where the vehicle in respect of which it is proposed to have the licence continued in force shall, on the date such application is received by the Authority, be no older than the vehicle associated with the licence at the time of such application.
 - (7) For the purposes of paragraph (6) of this Regulation the age of the vehicle shall be assumed to have been exactly three years on the date of the continuance in force in respect of another party referred to in paragraph (6).

Reactivation of expired licence

- 17. (1) Except where a small public service vehicle licence has been surrendered or revoked, or in the case of a local area hackney licence a period of three years has elapsed since the initial grant of the licence, the holder of a small public service vehicle licence that has expired may, subject to this Regulation, apply to the Authority for the reactivation of the expired licence in respect of the same vehicle or a different vehicle with such application to be accompanied by the fee in Schedule 1.
- (2) The Authority may approve an application under paragraph (1) provided that -
 - (a) the application is made to the Authority on or before the date falling twelve months after the date of expiry of the licence, and
 - (b) following an assessment of the vehicle by or on behalf of the Authority, the Authority is satisfied that the vehicle meets the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, provided that where the

Authority has determined that a specific vehicle type or model does not comply with the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, the Authority may refuse to reactivate the licence without an assessment of the specific vehicle.

Death of licence holder

18. (1) The Authority may approve an application under section 15 of the Principal Act by a nominated representative to continue to operate a small public service vehicle licence where -
- (a) the nominated representative provides -
 - (i) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that a test certificate has been issued no more than 60 days prior to the date of the application in respect of the vehicle the subject of the application,
 - (ii) a valid tax clearance certificate has been issued in respect of the nominated representative under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, and
 - (iii) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the vehicle the subject of the application is covered by insurance provided by a vehicle insurer (within the meaning of section 58 of the Act of 1961) in respect of passengers carried for reward in such vehicle,
 - (b) the application is accompanied by the relevant fee specified in Schedule 1,
 - (c) the application is made within the time period specified in section 15 of the Principal Act,
 - (d) in the case of a modified vehicle, the application is accompanied by evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the vehicle to which the application relates complies with the requirements of Regulation 30,
 - (e) in the case of an application in relation to a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence, the applicant provides the information required under Regulation 36, and
 - (f) the Authority is satisfied, following an assessment of the vehicle by or on behalf of the Authority, that the vehicle meets the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, provided that where the Authority has determined that a specific vehicle type or model does not comply with the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, the Authority may refuse to approve the application without an assessment of the specific vehicle.

Form of vehicle licence certificate

19. A small public service vehicle licence issued in respect of a vehicle under these Regulations shall state -
- (a) the date on which the licence was granted to such vehicle,

- (b) the expiry date of the licence,
- (c) the name and address of the licence holder,
- (d) the licence number,
- (e) the maximum number of passengers that the vehicle is licensed to carry for reward,
- (f) the registration number of the vehicle that is associated with the licence, and
- (g) the vehicle make, model and colour and engine capacity.

Surrender of licence

20. (1) The holder of a small public service vehicle licence may at any time surrender the licence to the Authority.
- (2) Upon the surrender of a small public service vehicle licence under paragraph (1), the licence shall be deemed to have permanently expired and shall not be renewed under Regulation 14 or reactivated under Regulation 17.

Insurance

21. The holder of a small public service vehicle licence shall maintain in force for the duration of the licence a policy of insurance provided by a vehicle insurer (within the meaning of section 58 of the Act of 1961) in respect of the carriage of passengers for reward in the vehicle.

Local area hackney licence

22. (1) The Authority may grant a new local area hackney licence or renew a local area hackney licence only where the Authority is satisfied that -
- (a) there is a demand for local area hackney services in the area in respect of which the licence is sought, and
 - (b) the public transport needs of the area in respect of which the licence is sought are not being adequately met by existing public transport services.
- (2) In considering whether to grant a new local area hackney licence, the Authority shall have regard to -
- (a) the public transport needs of the area in respect of which the licence is sought,
 - (b) any existing public transport services in the area in respect of which the licence is sought and the possible impact of a local area hackney service on such existing services,
 - (c) any other proposals for public transport services in the area in respect of which the licence is sought,
 - (d) any transport demand analysis that may be undertaken by or on behalf of the Authority or otherwise, and
 - (e) such other information as the Authority considers relevant.

- (3) A local area hackney licence shall only be granted by the Authority where -
- (a) the applicant provides -
- (i) evidence that the appropriate fee specified in Schedule 1 has been paid to the Authority,
 - (ii) other than in the case of a renewal application, confirmation in writing -
 - (A) from an established organisation representing local businesses in the area, or
 - (B) from a community group concerned for social and welfare needs of one or more communities, which has been granted an exemption from income tax under section 207 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, by the Revenue Commissioners,of the need for such local area hackney service in the proposed area,
 - (iii) other than in the case of a renewal application, an analysis of the need for such local area hackney service in the proposed area carried out by or on behalf of the local authority in whose administrative area the local area hackney service is proposed to be provided and written confirmation from that local authority that there is a need for such local area hackney service in the proposed area,
 - (iv) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that a test certificate has been issued not more than 60 days prior to the date of the application in respect of the vehicle the subject of the application,
 - (v) a valid tax clearance certificate for the time being in force in respect of the applicant under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997,
 - (vi) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the vehicle the subject of the application is covered by insurance provided by a vehicle insurer (within the meaning of section 58 of the Act of 1961) in respect of passengers carried for reward in such vehicle,
 - (vii) evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the applicant is -
 - (A) the registered owner of the vehicle the subject of the application, or
 - (B) legally entitled to the use and possession of the vehicle the subject of the application for a period of not less than 12 months from the date of the application,
 - (viii) in the case of a modified vehicle, the application is accompanied by evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the vehicle to which the application relates complies with the requirements of Regulation 30, and

(ix) the Authority is satisfied, following an assessment of the vehicle by or on behalf of the Authority, that the vehicle meets the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, provided that where the Authority has determined that a specific vehicle type or model does not comply with the requirements applicable to such licence under Part 4 of these Regulations, the Authority may refuse to grant the licence without an assessment of the specific vehicle.

(4) The holder of a local area hackney licence shall –

- (a) ensure that the vehicle associated with such licence is available for hire as a local area hackney in the area in respect of which the licence is granted,
- (b) not, during the term of such licence, hold, or apply for the grant of, a small public service vehicle licence in respect of any vehicle,
- (c) not provide, or advertise the provision of, services for the carriage of passengers for reward outside of the local area in respect of which the licence has been granted.

Prohibition on holding a small public service vehicle licence

23. The Authority shall not grant a new licence or renew an existing licence for a small public service vehicle to a person who is the holder of a permission granted under section 4 of the Immigration Act 2004 for the purpose of enabling him or her to engage in a course of education or study in the State.

Exemption from requirement to hold a small public service vehicle licence

24. TO BE PROVIDED BY HC

PART 4 -VEHICLE STANDARDS

Standard taxi vehicle requirements

25. Standard taxis shall comply with the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedule 2.

Standard hackney and local area hackney vehicle requirements

26. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), standard hackneys and local area hackneys shall comply with the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedule 3.
- (2) Local area hackneys shall be exempt from the requirements of paragraph 16 of Schedule 3.

Wheelchair accessible taxi vehicle requirements

27. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), wheelchair accessible taxis shall comply with the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedules 2 and 4.
- (2) Where a vehicle is associated with a wheelchair accessible taxi licence first granted on or before 8 June 2010 and was associated to that licence on 1st January 2013, such vehicle shall be exempt from the requirements of –
- (a) paragraph 5 (Provision of Access Step) of Schedule 4,
 - (b) paragraph 6 (Access Step Requirements) of Schedule 4,
 - (c) paragraph 7 (Access Step Integrity) of Schedule 4,
 - (d) paragraph 8 (Kneeling Suspension System Requirements) of Schedule 4,
 - (e) paragraph 11 (User Manual) of Schedule 4,
 - (f) paragraph 12 (Handholds) of Schedule 4,
 - (g) paragraph 13 (Targeted Interior Lighting) of Schedule 4,
 - (h) paragraph 14 (Flooring) of Schedule 4, and
 - (i) paragraph 15 (Intercom and Induction Loop) of Schedule 4.

Wheelchair accessible hackney vehicle requirements

28. Wheelchair accessible hackneys shall comply with the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedules 3 and 4.

Limousine vehicle requirements

29. Limousines shall comply with the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedule 5.

Modified vehicles

30. (1) An application for -
- (a) the grant of a new wheelchair accessible taxi licence or new wheelchair accessible hackney licence, or
 - (b) the continuance in force of a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence in respect of a different vehicle,

shall be accompanied by a technical assessor's full report dated not more than 60 days before the date of the application and an information package containing formal test data confirming that the vehicle (referenced by its VIN) complies with -

- (i) the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedules 2, 4 and 7 in respect of a wheelchair accessible taxi licence application, or
 - (ii) the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedules 3, 4 and 7 in respect of a wheelchair accessible hackney licence application.
- (2) An application for the renewal of a wheelchair accessible taxi licence first granted on or before 8 June 2010 shall -
- (a) in the case of the first renewal of such licence on or after 1 January 2015, and
 - (b) upon the expiry of each subsequent period of five years since the first renewal of such licence under sub-paragraph (a),

be accompanied by a technical assessor's basic report dated not more than 60 days before the date of the application confirming that the vehicle (referenced by its VIN) complies with the relevant vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedule 2, 4 and 7 for such licence.

- (3) An application for -
- (a) the grant of a new standard taxi licence, a new standard hackney licence, or a new local area hackney licence in respect of a modified vehicle, or
 - (b) the continuance in force of a standard taxi licence, standard hackney licence or local area hackney licence in respect of a different vehicle that is a modified vehicle,

shall be accompanied by a technical assessor's full report dated not more than 60 days before the date of the application and information package confirming that the vehicle (referenced by its VIN) complies with -

- (i) the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedule 2 in respect of a standard taxi licence application, or
 - (ii) the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedule 3 in respect of a standard hackney licence or, subject to Regulation 26(2), a local area hackney licence application.
- (4) An application for the renewal of a standard taxi licence, standard hackney licence or local area hackney licence in relation to a modified vehicle shall -
- (a) in the case of the first renewal of such licence on or after 1 January 2015, and

- (b) upon the expiry of each subsequent period of five years since the first renewal of such licence under sub-paragraph (a),

be accompanied by a technical assessor's basic report dated not more than 60 days before the date of the application confirming that the vehicle (referenced by its VIN) complies with -

- (i) the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedule 2 in respect of a standard taxi licence application, or
- (ii) the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedule 3 in respect of a standard hackney licence or, subject to Regulation 26(2), a local area hackney licence application.

- (5) An application for -

- (a) the grant of a new limousine licence in respect of a modified vehicle, or
- (b) the continuance in force of a limousine licence in respect of a different vehicle that is a modified vehicle,

shall be accompanied by a technical assessor's full report dated not more than 60 days before the date of the application and information package confirming that the vehicle (referenced by its VIN) complies with the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedule 5.

- (6) An application for the renewal of a limousine licence in relation to a modified vehicle shall -

- (a) in the case of the first renewal of such licence on or after 1 January 2015, and
- (b) upon the expiry of each subsequent period of five years since the first renewal of such licence under sub-paragraph (a),

be accompanied by a technical assessor's basic report dated not more than 60 days before the date of the application confirming that the vehicle (referenced by its VIN) complies with the vehicle standards and requirements specified in Schedule 7.

- (7) Where a vehicle has been adapted to operate using liquefied petroleum gas or compressed natural gas, whether in addition to an existing means of propulsion or otherwise, the small public service vehicle licence holder shall provide a technical assessor's LPG report confirming that the gas adaptation for the vehicle (referenced by its VIN) complies with the relevant Construction, equipment and Use Regulations. Such report shall be provided at the next licensing inspection and be dated not more than 60 days after the date of the gas adaptation.

- (8) Where a licensed vehicle is modified in respect of any of the matters contemplated by this Regulation, the small public service vehicle licence holder shall, within ten (10) days of such modification being carried out -

- (a) notify the Authority in writing of such modification, and
- (b) furnish the relevant technical assessor's report to the Authority as would be required for a vehicle licence renewal application in accordance with this Regulation.

Prohibition on fitment of taximeter

31. Hackneys and limousines shall not be fitted with a taximeter.

Maximum permissible age requirements

32. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the maximum permissible age of a standard taxi, standard hackney or local area hackney is ten years from the date of the vehicle's first registration.
- (2) Where a vehicle is associated with a standard taxi licence or standard hackney licence first granted before 1st January 2009 and was associated to that licence on 1st January 2013, the maximum permissible age of such vehicle is fifteen years from its date of first registration.
- (3) There is no maximum age limit for a limousine, wheelchair accessible taxi or wheelchair accessible hackney.

Mutual recognition

33. The vehicle standards and requirements referred to in this Part 4 shall be satisfied by compliance with:
- (a) a relevant standard or code of practice of a national standards body or equivalent body of any EEA State,
 - (b) any relevant international standard recognised for use in any EEA State, or
 - (c) any relevant technical regulation with mandatory or de facto mandatory application for marketing or use in any EEA State,

insofar as the standard, code of practice, technical regulation or process in question enables the protection of the health and safety of passengers and drivers and the promotion of accessible services for passengers with disabilities to be met in an equivalent manner.

Prohibition on certain vehicles

34. The Authority shall not grant a licence in respect of vehicle that is a crew cab or a pick-up,

Passenger Capacity Determination

35. (1) In respect of a vehicle, subject to paragraph (2), the number of passengers for which passenger accommodation is available in a small public service vehicle shall be determined by reference to the number of seating positions in the vehicle, provided that the maximum number of seating positions shall not exceed eight, excluding the driver's seat.
- (2) Seating positions for the purposes of paragraph (1) shall be determined by reference to the following –
- (a) a minimum seat squab width of 400 millimetres is required in respect of each seating position,
 - (b) a seating position fitted with a safety belt is reckoned as one seating position,

- (c) in relation to a bench seat without a safety belt, the number of seating positions shall be assessed as a multiple of the required minimum square width of 400 millimetres in respect of each position, and
 - (d) in relation to a wheelchair accessible vehicle each wheelchair space is reckoned as one seating position.
- (3) In respect of a vehicle that can evidently accommodate more than eight seating positions, excluding the driver's seat, the holder of the small public service vehicle licence shall permanently disable, or cause to be permanently disabled, any seating positions in the vehicle in excess of eight, excluding the driver's seat.

**PART 5 - DUTIES OF HOLDERS OF WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE HACKNEY LICENCES AND
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TAXI LICENCES**

Information to be provided to the Authority

36. (1) The holder of a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence shall provide to the Authority as part of any application for the grant of such licence or upon request by the Authority, and within such period as may be specified by the Authority, the following information -
- (a) the names of any persons, including the licence holder, driving or using the vehicle to carry passengers for reward,
 - (b) all contact details available for the purposes of making a booking in respect of the vehicle,
 - (c) the areas of the State in which the licence holder drives or uses the vehicle to carry passengers for reward, and
 - (d) the days and times during which the licence holder makes the vehicle available to carry passengers for reward.
- (2) The Authority may use or publicise the information provided under paragraph (1) to assist consumers who wish to avail of, or to book, a wheelchair accessible taxi or wheelchair accessible hackney.
- (3) The Authority may seek further clarification or further details in relation to the information provided or to be provided by the licence holder under paragraph (1) and the licence holder shall promptly provide such clarification or further details.
- (4) Any changes in the information previously provided to the Authority under paragraph (1) shall be notified by the licence holder to the Authority promptly upon such change and, in any case, upon demand by the Authority.

Maintenance of records of bookings

37. (1) The holder of a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence shall maintain records of all bookings received.
- (2) The records referred to in paragraph (1) shall include –
- (a) the date and time of the booking,
 - (b) the name and contact details of the person making the booking,
 - (c) the name and contact details of the person intending to travel,
 - (d) the destination of the journey booked,
 - (e) the time at which the fare commenced, and
 - (f) the time at which the destination was arrived at.
- (3) The holder of a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence shall promptly, and in any event within such period as may be specified by the Authority, following a request from the Authority, make available for inspection,

in such form and manner as may be required by the Authority, the records referred to in this Regulation.

- (4) Each record created by a licence holder under this Regulation shall be retained for a period of not less than one year from the date of its creation.

Priority to persons with disabilities

38. The holder of a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or a wheelchair accessible hackney licence shall give priority to bookings in respect of persons with disabilities, including persons who wish to travel in their wheelchairs.

PART 6 - DUTIES OF DRIVERS OF SMALL PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLES

Duties of drivers of small public service vehicles

39. (1) The driver of a small public service vehicle, when carrying passengers for reward, shall—
- (a) carry such persons and luggage and drive the vehicle to such places as the hirer may reasonably direct,
 - (b) proceed at a reasonable speed while so driving, and
 - (c) wait with the vehicle at such places and for such lengths of time as the hirer may reasonably direct.
- (2) Where a passenger requests the driver of a taxi to drive to a specified place and, having arrived at that specified place, requests the driver to drive to another specified place, it shall be the duty of the driver to comply with such latter request unless such passenger fails to -
- (a) tender the lawful fare in respect of the completed part of the journey, or
 - (b) prove to the reasonable satisfaction of the driver that he or she will pay the lawful fare for the total journey on being so required by the driver.
- (3) Where a passenger or intending passenger of a small public service vehicle makes an advance payment in respect of services not yet rendered, the driver of the vehicle shall -
- (a) perform those services immediately unless the driver is -
 - (i) directed otherwise by such passenger or intending passenger, or
 - (ii) reasonably prevented from performing the services,
 - (b) hold such payment as a deposit, and
 - (c) only retain the lawful fare in respect of any services performed, and
 - (d) having retained the lawful fare for any services performed, repay any outstanding balance to the passenger or intending passenger.
- (4) The driver of a small public service vehicle, where such vehicle is being operated for the carriage of passengers for reward and, in the case of a taxi, when standing or plying for hire, shall -
- (a) comply with the reasonable requirements of any passenger or intending passenger,
 - (b) provide all reasonable assistance and information to any person having authority to examine the vehicle,
 - (c) take all reasonable precautions to ensure the safety of persons in, on, entering or alighting from the vehicle,

- (d) not invite or allow any person to travel in the vehicle without the consent of the person hiring the vehicle,
 - (e) switch on the light to illuminate the interior of the vehicle when requested to do so by a passenger provided such illumination does not interfere with the safe driving of the vehicle,
 - (f) when requested by a person who has hired the vehicle, afford reasonable assistance in loading and unloading luggage and in removing luggage to or from the entrance of any house, station or place at which the driver takes up or sets down such person, and
 - (g) carry and have available for inspection his or her SPSV Driver's Identity Card while so operating or standing or plying for hire.
- (5) The driver of a small public service vehicle licence shall not, while standing or plying for hire or carrying passengers for reward, -
- (a) act in a manner that is abusive, threatening or offensive to any passenger or intending passenger,
 - (b) act in a manner that is a nuisance or a danger to any person,
 - (c) use any threatening, obscene or offensive language or make any threatening, obscene or offensive gesture to any person, or
 - (d) discriminate (within the meaning of section 3 or 4(1) of the Equal Status Act 2000) against any passenger or intending passenger.

Guide and other assistance dogs

40. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the driver of a small public service vehicle shall not refuse to carry in his or her vehicle a guide dog or other assistance dog accompanying a person with disabilities.
- (2) The driver of a small public service vehicle may refuse to carry a guide dog or other assistance dog in his or her vehicle where that driver has provided prior evidence to the Authority, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that the driver is unable, for medical reasons, to carry a dog in his or her vehicle.

PART 7 – OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

Maximum hours of operation

41. A person shall not, in any period of three consecutive days, drive or use a small public service vehicle for the carriage of passengers for reward for more than eleven hours in any one day.

Limitation on number of passengers

42. A person shall not drive or use a small public service vehicle to carry passengers for reward where the number of passengers or intending passengers would exceed the maximum number of passengers stated on the small public service vehicle licence issued in respect of such vehicle.

Unfit vehicles and vehicle standards

43. A person shall not drive or use a small public service vehicle for the carriage of persons for reward while the vehicle is unsafe or otherwise unfit for the carriage of persons.
44. A person shall not drive or use a small public service vehicle for the carriage of persons for reward unless the vehicle meets the requirements applicable to the licence type under Part 4 of these Regulations.

Carriage of dangerous substances

45. (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this Regulation, a person shall not cause or permit any highly inflammable, dangerous or offensive article to be carried in a small public service vehicle.
- (2) Paragraph (1) of this Regulation shall not operate so as to prohibit the carriage in a small public service vehicle of—
- (a) fuel and lubricant necessary for the vehicle,
 - (b) any substance which is carried in containers so designed and constructed or which is so packed that in the event of an accident it is unlikely to cause damage or injury to the vehicle or to persons carried therein, or
 - (c) a firearm carried by a member of the Defence Forces or of the Garda Síochána.

Tamper-proof disc

46. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a person shall not operate or purport to operate a small public service vehicle unless a valid tamper-proof disc is affixed, in such form and manner as the Authority may determine, to each of the front and rear windows of the vehicle.
- (2) In the case of a limousine, the Authority may waive the requirement to have a valid tamper-proof disc affixed to the rear window of the vehicle.
- (3) Subject to section 17 of the Principal Act, a person shall not, without the prior consent of the Authority, remove or attempt to remove, damage or otherwise interfere with a tamper-proof disc affixed to a small public service vehicle in accordance with this Regulation.

In-vehicle information

47. (1) The driver of a small public service vehicle shall display such in-vehicle information in such form and manner as the Authority may specify.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), the driver of a small public service vehicle shall display in-vehicle information as the Authority may specify relating to the rights and obligations of consumers relevant to the class of small public service vehicle concerned.
- (3) A person shall not, without the prior consent of the Authority, remove or attempt to remove, damage or otherwise interfere with any in-vehicle information displayed in a small public service vehicle.

Taxi roof sign

48. (1) Where a taxi is being driven or used for the carriage of passengers for reward, a taxi roof sign shall be affixed to the vehicle in accordance with paragraph 19 of Schedule 2.
- (2) A taxi roof sign referred to in paragraph (1) shall -
 - (a) where the vehicle is standing or plying for hire, be illuminated by means of the internal electric light installation, and
 - (b) where the vehicle has been hired by a passenger or intending passenger, not be illuminated.
- (3) With the prior consent of any individual who hires a taxi in respect of any journey that is likely to exceed 30 kilometres, the taxi sign may be positioned longitudinally.

Driver identification

49. (1) Where a small public service vehicle, is being driven or used for the carriage of passengers for reward, or in the case of a taxi standing or plying for hire, the driver of the vehicle shall display his or her SPSV Driver Display Card in a prominent place on the dashboard such that it is clearly visible to passengers in the rear of the vehicle and to persons standing in front of the vehicle.
- (2) The SPSV Driver Display Card referred to in paragraph (1) shall contain the following information -
 - (a) the name of the driver,
 - (b) a photograph of the driver,
 - (c) the number of the driver's licence to drive small public service vehicles,
 - (d) the expiry date of the driver's licence to drive small public service vehicles,
 - (e) on the side of the card facing the front of the vehicle, the area or areas in respect of which the driver is authorised to stand or ply for hire,
 - (f) such security features as may be determined by the Authority, and

- (g) such other relevant information as the Authority may from time to time determine.

Prohibition on advertising

50. (1) A person shall not display, or permit the display of, any sign or advertisement on the exterior, or on the interior such that it is visible from the exterior, of a hackney or limousine unless such sign or advertisement has been approved in writing by the Authority.
- (2) In the case of a taxi licence granted after 1st January 2015, the holder of a small public service vehicle licence in respect of a taxi shall not display, or permit the display of, any sign or advertisement on the exterior, or on the interior such that it is visible from the exterior, of the small public service vehicle which is the subject of the licence unless such sign or advertisement -
- (a) is prescribed in these regulations;
 - (b) is required to be displayed under legislation;
 - (c) is a sign, badge or symbol installed by the vehicle manufacturer;
 - (d) is a sign providing the name and other details of the garage where the vehicle was purchased; or
 - (e) is otherwise prescribed or approved in writing by the Authority.

Operation of small public service vehicle by another person

51. The holder of a small public service vehicle licence shall not allow a person to operate the vehicle to which such licence relates for the carriage of passengers for reward unless the licence holder -
- (a) is satisfied that the proposed driver holds a licence to drive small public service vehicles,
 - (b) provides, and maintains, insurance provided by a vehicle insurer (within the meaning of section 58 of the Act of 1961) in respect of passengers carried for reward by the proposed driver in such vehicle,
 - (c) keeps a written record of -
 - (i) the name and address of any persons who drive the vehicle for the carriage of passengers for reward,
 - (ii) the periods of use of the vehicle by any persons referred to in sub-paragraph (c)(i), and
 - (iii) the details of the small public service vehicle driver licence of any persons referred to in sub-paragraph (c)(i), including the licence numbers and expiry dates, and
 - (d) promptly makes available to the Authority, at the request of the Authority, the records referred to in sub-paragraph (c) or copies thereof.

Rental or lease of small public service vehicle to another person

52. (1) The holder of a small public service vehicle licence shall not enter into any rental, leasing or similar arrangement in respect of the driving or use of the vehicle for the carriage of passengers for reward by another person unless the licence holder -
- (a) is satisfied that the proposed driver holds a licence to drive small public service vehicles,
 - (b) provides, and maintains during the period of such rental or lease or similar arrangement, insurance provided by a vehicle insurer (within the meaning of section 58 of the Act of 1961) in respect of passengers carried for reward by the proposed driver in such vehicle,
 - (c) in the case of a taxi, ensures that the vehicle is fitted with a taximeter in accordance with Regulation 56,
 - (d) ensures that at the commencement of the rental, lease or similar arrangement, the vehicle meets any requirements in relation to vehicle standards contemplated by these Regulations,
 - (e) prior to the proposed driving or use of the vehicle by another person pursuant to a rental, leasing or similar arrangement, notifies the Authority of -
 - (i) the period of arrangement, and
 - (ii) the identity of the other party or parties to the arrangement,
 - (f) holds a copy of the licence referred to in sub-paragraph (a) together with evidence of the insurance referred to in sub-paragraph (c), and
 - (g) at the request of the Authority, promptly provides a copy of the records referred to in sub-paragraph (f) and any written agreement evidencing the rental, leasing or similar arrangement.
- (2) Except in the circumstances contemplated by paragraph (1), the holder of a small public service vehicle licence shall not rent or lease his or her licence, or any interest in his or her licence, to another person.
- (3) The holder of a small public service vehicle licence shall not enter into any rental, leasing or similar arrangement in respect of the driving or use of the vehicle for the carriage of passengers for reward by another person who is the holder of a permission granted under section 4 of the Immigration Act 2004 for the purpose of enabling him or her to engage in a course of education or study in the State.

Notification of driving of a small public service vehicle

53. A person who is licensed to drive small public service vehicles shall, prior to driving a vehicle as a small public service vehicle, submit such details to the Authority as the Authority may determine in relation to the vehicle including, without limitation, identification details of the vehicle and the period of operation of the vehicle.

PART 8 – COMMENCEMENT OF HIRE AND PAYMENT OF FARES

Maximum Fares Order

54. For the purposes of Section 24 of the Principal Act, Schedule 10 of these Regulations constitutes the maximum fares order applicable to taxis.

Commencement of hire and standing for hire

55. (1) The hiring of a pre-booked small public service vehicle shall commence at the time and place agreed with the person who pre-booked the vehicle.
- (2) For the purposes of section 25(3) of the Principal Act, where a vehicle fitted with a taxi roof sign is stationary in a public place other than an appointed stand, and such vehicle is not occupied by a person other than the driver, the driver of the vehicle shall be deemed to be standing for hire at a place other than an appointed stand.

Taximeter

56. (1) Taxis shall be fitted with a taximeter complying with the requirements of paragraph 20 of Schedule 2.
- (2) A person shall not drive or operate a taxi for the carriage of persons for reward unless –
- (a) a taximeter is fitted to the vehicle in accordance with paragraph (1), and
 - (b) the taximeter fitted to the vehicle has been calibrated in accordance with Regulation 56.
- (3) The driver of a taxi shall not cause or permit the taximeter fitted to such vehicle to be engaged while the vehicle is standing or plying for hire.
- (4) Except where there is a prior written agreement between the driver or operator of a taxi and the passenger confirming –
- (a) the charge for the pre-booked service, and
 - (b) that the passenger waives his or her right to have the fare calculated on the taximeter,
- all fares in respect of journeys undertaken by a taxi shall be calculated using a taximeter fitted and calibrated in accordance with these Regulations and no additional charges shall be added in respect of payments made by credit or debit cards.
- (5) The driver or operator of a taxi, or any dispatch operator to which such taxi is affiliated, shall not, in relation to a payment for a fare by credit or debit card, define or operate a minimum value of fare for acceptance of such form of payment.

Calibration of taximeters to reflect maximum fares order

57. Where a maximum fares order is made by the Authority, the holder of a taxi licence shall, within 21 days of the date on which the maximum fares order comes into operation, ensure that his or her taximeter is calibrated in accordance with such maximum fares order.

Booking fee

58. A booking fee shall not be charged in respect of a journey undertaken in a taxi unless the vehicle is pre-booked by, or on behalf of, the intending passenger and shall not be charged where the taxi is engaged:
- (a) while plying for hire or standing for hire, or
 - (b) without having been booked in advance by the consumer, at any location including an airport or other transport station or terminal.

Taxi receipts

59. (1) Where a maximum fares order is made by the Authority, the driver of a taxi shall, upon completion of the journey, provide a receipt to the passenger in accordance with paragraph (2).
- (2) A receipt referred to in paragraph (1) shall contain at least the following information -
- (a) the total fare payable in respect of the hire,
 - (b) an itemised breakdown of any extra charges lawfully payable,
 - (c) the date, starting time and finishing time of the hire,
 - (d) the total distance travelled in kilometres (stated to at least one decimal place),
 - (e) the small public service vehicle licence number of the vehicle,
 - (f) the unique identification mark (registration number) of the vehicle,
 - (g) the receipt number (in sequential order),
 - (h) a reasonable space headed "Tips/Discounts/Tolls", and
 - (i) such other information as may be determined by the Authority.

Hackney and limousine receipts

60. (1) Except where a passenger avails of a pre-existing payment account, the driver of a hackney or limousine shall, upon completion of the journey, provide a receipt to the passenger in accordance with paragraph (2).
- (2) A receipt referred to in paragraph (1) shall contain at least the following information -
- (a) the receipt number,
 - (b) the small public service vehicle licence number of the vehicle,
 - (c) the unique identification mark (registration number) of the vehicle,
 - (d) the date, and

- (e) the amount charged in respect of the journey
- (f) the contact details for any complaints system operated by or on behalf of the Authority, and
- (g) such other information as may be determined by the Authority.

Area knowledge

61. (1) A driver of a taxi shall not stand or ply for hire other than in an area in which he or she is licensed to so stand or ply for hire in accordance with a licence granted under Part 2 of these Regulations.
- (2) It is a condition of a licence to drive a small public service vehicle that the holder of such licence has adequate local knowledge of area in which he or she is licensed to stand or ply for hire.
- (3) If requested by the Authority, the holder of a licence to drive a small public service vehicle shall provide evidence, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, that he or she has adequate knowledge of the area in which he or she is licensed to stand or ply for hire.

Hire of hackney

62. (1) The driver of a hackney shall, from the time of receipt of a notification that the vehicle has been hired to the completion of the journey, carry a booking record in the vehicle which sets out –
- (a) the points of commencement and completion of the hire,
 - (b) the name of the person who hired the vehicle,
 - (c) the contact details of the person referred to in sub-paragraph (b), and
 - (d) the fare agreed for the hire.
- (2) The booking record referred to in paragraph (1) shall be made available for inspection by the person who hired the vehicle on request.

PART 9 - LICENSING OF DISPATCH OPERATORS

Requirement for dispatch operators to be licensed

63. A person shall not operate as a dispatch operator or provide a booking service in respect of small public service vehicles, other than limousines, unless such person holds a dispatch operator licence granted by the Authority under Regulation 64.

Grant of dispatch operator licence

64. The Authority may grant a dispatch operator licence to a person to act as a dispatch operator or provide booking services in respect of small public service vehicles provided that, the applicant -
- (a) produces a valid tax clearance certificate for the time being in force in respect of the applicant under section 1095 (inserted by section 127 of the Finance Act 2002) of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997,
 - (b) provides to the Authority contact information used for the purposes of making or receiving bookings in relation to drivers affiliated with the dispatch operator or the person providing the booking service including details of any trading name being used or proposed to be used by the licence holder, and
 - (c) pays to the Authority the appropriate fee specified in Schedule 1.

Period of validity of dispatch operator licence

65. A dispatch operator licence granted by the Authority shall remain in force until the earlier of -
- (a) the expiry of a period of twelve months from the date of its grant or renewal under Regulation 64,
 - (b) the surrender of the licence by the licence holder, and
 - (c) the revocation or suspension of the licence.

Obligations of Dispatch Operators

66. (1) A dispatch operator or provider of a booking service shall only provide bookings to a driver where -
- (a) the driver holds a licence to drive small public service vehicles, and
 - (b) there is a small public service vehicle licence in force in respect of the vehicle to be used by the driver to provide the services.
- (2) A dispatch operator or provider of a booking service shall maintain a complete and up-to-date list of all vehicle and driver licences in respect of which he or she is providing a booking service and shall make such list available to the Authority promptly upon request.
- (3) A person shall not, and shall not procure others to, promote, offer or advertise a service for the booking of a small public service vehicle for hire unless such person holds a dispatch operator licence.

- (4) A dispatch operator or provider of a booking service shall put in place a consumer complaints procedure to effectively address any complaints received from users of the booking service and shall make such procedure available to the Authority promptly upon request.
- (5) A dispatch operator or provider of a booking service shall put in place a record management procedure in relation to any bookings and complaints received and shall make such records available to the Authority promptly upon request.
- (6) A dispatch operator or provider of a booking service shall notify the Authority of any change of name or address associated with his or her dispatch operator licence, including a change to any trading name used in relation to the services, within fourteen days of such change.

PART 10 - PENALTIES

Penal regulations

67. Regulations 9(5), 9(6), 20, 21(4), 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29(9), 30, 35(1), 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45(1), 45(3), 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 55(2), 55(3), 55(4), 55(5), 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62 and 65 are penal regulations for the purposes of section 20(4) of the Principal Act]

Substantial breach of regulations

68. A contravention of regulation 9(5), 9(6), 20, 38(5)(a), 38(5)(d), 41, 42, 43, 50 or 51 is a substantial breach of the regulations for the purposes of section 20(3) of the Principal Act.

Prescribed amount of fixed payment

69. The amount prescribed for a fixed payment offence is the amount indicated in column (3) of the table in Schedule 8 opposite the relevant fixed payment offence listed in column (1) of the table.

Form of fixed payment notice

70. The form of notice set out in Schedule 9 is prescribed as the form of fixed payment notice.

SCHEDULE 1

Fees

1. The following fees shall be payable in respect of a granting of a new small public service vehicle licence -
 - (a) €125 in respect of a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence,
 - (b) €1,000 in respect of a standard hackney licence,
 - (c) €1,000 in respect of a limousine licence, and
 - (d) €50 in respect of a local area hackney licence.
2. The following fees shall be payable in respect of the renewal of a small public service vehicle licence for a period of twelve months -
 - (a) €125 in respect of renewals completed prior to expiry date of the prior licence,
 - (b) €500 in respect of renewals completed after the expiry date of the prior licence provided that -
 - (i) where the licence is reactivated not more than 10 days after the date of expiry of the licence, the Authority shall refund €275 to the applicant, and
 - (ii) where the licence is reactivated more than 10 days but not more than 30 days after the date of expiry of the licence, the Authority shall refund €175 to the applicant,
3. The following fees shall be payable in respect of the renewal of a small public service vehicle licence for a period of six months -
 - (a) €62.50 in respect of renewals completed prior to expiry date of the prior licence,
 - (b) €250 in respect of renewals completed after the expiry date of the prior licence provided that -where the licence is reactivated not more than 10 days after the date of expiry of the licence, the Authority shall refund €100 to the applicant.
4. Subject to paragraph 5, a fee of €250 shall be payable in respect of the initial grant of a small public service vehicle driver's licence or the renewal of a small public service vehicle driver's licence.
5. A fee of €50 shall be payable in respect of the initial granting or the renewal of a local area hackney driver's licence.
6. A fee of €125 shall be payable in respect of a continuance in force of a small public service vehicle licence in respect of a different vehicle.
7. A fee of €90 shall apply to all applications to undertake the SPSV Driver Entry Test.
8. A fee of €90 shall apply to all applications to undertake the Area Knowledge Test.

9. A fee of €90 shall apply to all applications to undertake the Industry Knowledge Test.
10. A fee of €100 shall be payable in respect of the grant of a new dispatch operator licence or the renewal of a dispatch operator licence.

SCHEDULE 2

General Vehicle Requirements for Taxis

Vehicle Weight and General Characteristics

1. The vehicle shall be a mechanically propelled vehicle which is designed and constructed for the carriage of passengers with passenger seating accommodation for no more than eight persons (exclusive of the driver) and a maximum design gross vehicle weight not exceeding 3,500 kilogrammes.

Wheel Arrangement

2. The vehicle shall have at least four wheels arranged in axle pairs such that the minimum wheelbase is 2,100 millimetres, the minimum track width is 1,100 millimetres and any side to side variation in wheelbase is less than 75 millimetres.

Tyre Load Rating

3. The tyres shall have a load rating appropriate for the design gross vehicle weight, with such tyre load rating to be a minimum of 107 unless documentary evidence from the vehicle manufacturer recommending a lower rating is supplied.

Doors

4. (1) The vehicle shall have a minimum of four doors.
(2) All doors shall be operable from inside or outside the vehicle by a passenger provided that a door may be automatically locked while the vehicle is in motion subject to it automatically unlocking once the vehicle becomes stationary.

Bull Bars

5. No bull bars shall be fitted to the vehicle, except where they are compliant with Regulation 78/2009/EC as amended and evidence of that compliance, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, has been provided.

Doors and Windows

6. (1) All passenger (side) windows shall be readily operable.
(2) The windows shall be in a clean condition.
(3) Except for a band of a maximum of 125 millimetres in depth at the top upper edge, the front windscreen of a small public service vehicle shall exhibit 75 per cent minimum visible light transmission.
(4) Subject to (5) below, where a passenger seating position or a wheelchair space is adjacent to a window (other than the front windscreen and the rear windscreen of such vehicle), such window shall exhibit 70 per cent minimum visible light transmission.
(5) The requirements in (4) above shall not apply in respect of a vehicle associated to a taxi licence first granted before 8th June 2010 where the vehicle was associated with such licence on 1st January 2013.

Cleanliness

7. The vehicle shall be in a good and clean condition and its interior shall be free of dust, dirt, grime, refuse, litter, objectionable matter or unpleasant smell.

Seating Quality

8. The vehicle shall be fitted with seats which are properly upholstered with leather, good quality artificial leather or other durable material, and which are in a clean and hygienic condition.

Exterior Paint

9. The exterior paint of the vehicle shall exhibit good colour consistency without paint or bodywork repairs in progress.

Luggage Area

10. Any area within the vehicle which is provided for luggage shall be available for passenger luggage and shall not contain any other unsecured items or be dirty or damp.

Passenger Compartment Temperature

11. Other than where a vehicle is associated with a standard taxi licence first granted before 1st January 2009, or a wheelchair accessible taxi licence first granted 8th June 2010, and was associated to that licence on 1st January 2013, the vehicle shall be capable of maintaining a passenger compartment temperature of 20 degrees centigrade during an external ambient temperature of minus 5 degrees centigrade.

Safety Equipment and Communications

12. The vehicle shall safely carry the following articles:
 - (a) Subject to (b) a spare wheel system,
 - (b) The Authority may reduce the requirements of paragraph (a) where the vehicle concerned is a series production electric vehicle, a series production hybrid electric vehicle, a series production flexible fuel vehicle or a series production plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, or a vehicle adapted for liquefied petroleum gas or compressed natural gas.
 - (c) a first-aid kit, being a within date first aid kit complying with DIN (Deutsches Institut für Normung) 13164 or comparable travel kit recommended by the Health and Safety Authority,
 - (d) a fire extinguisher, meaning a fire extinguisher in serviceable condition complying with EN3 and suitable for inflammability classes A, B and C, with a minimum capacity of 2 kilogrammes of dry powder or an equivalent capacity for any other suitable extinguishing agent,
 - (e) a reflective advance warning triangle to standard ECE Regulation 27,
 - (f) a high visibility reflective safety vest to standard ANSI 107, BS EN 471 or CEN 471 or equivalent,

- (g) a working handheld torch, and
- (h) a pen and paper.

Interior Lighting

13. The standard fitment interior lighting of the vehicle shall be in operational condition.

Side Facing Seats

14. No side-facing seat shall be fitted in the vehicle.

Vehicle Roof

15. The vehicle shall have a permanent, rigid roof (which may contain a properly fitted sunroof) covering the driver and passenger compartments.

Luggage Capacity

16. (1) Subject to (2) below, the vehicle shall comply with the following requirements:
- (a) The vehicle shall have accommodation for safely transporting luggage of minimum total volume of 420 litres, as measured by the VDA method,
 - (b) A guard or cover shall be fitted to any luggage compartment referred to in paragraph (a) capable of preventing luggage from causing injury to any passenger in the event of an accident,
 - (c) A space consisting of the minimum box dimensions 735 millimetres x 330 millimetres x 805 millimetres shall be provided within the luggage volume specified at paragraph (a) to accommodate a folded wheelchair, and
 - (d) The Authority may reduce the requirements of paragraphs (a) where the vehicle concerned is a series production electric vehicle, a series production hybrid electric vehicle, a series production flexible fuel vehicle or a series production plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, or a vehicle adapted for liquefied petroleum gas or compressed natural gas.
- (2) Where a vehicle is associated with a standard taxi licence first granted before 1st January 2009, or a wheelchair accessible taxi licence first granted 8th June 2010, and was associated to that licence on 1st January 2013, such vehicle shall have provision for a reasonable quantity of luggage relative to the number of seating positions.

Passenger Seats General Requirements

17. Each passenger seat in a vehicle (other than the seat of a wheelchair) shall -
- (a) have a minimum squab width of 400 millimetres, and
 - (b) shall be firmly and securely fixed in the vehicle when in a position for passenger occupation.

Passenger Seats / Space

18. Except where a vehicle is associated with a taxi licence first granted before 8th June 2010, and was associated with that licence on 1st January 2013, the vehicle shall comply with the following requirements –
- (a) the top of any uncompressed front passenger seat squab shall be at least 275 millimetres from the floor of the vehicle,
 - (b) the top of any uncompressed passenger seat squab other than a front passenger seat squab shall be at least 275 millimetres and not more than 460 millimetres from the vehicle floor at the front of the squab,
 - (c) there shall be at least 650 millimetres measured longitudinally and horizontally from the front face of the backrest at uncompressed squab height to the rear face of the seat or the surface immediately in front of the seat,
 - (d) where seats face each other, there shall be at least 1300 millimetres measured longitudinally and horizontally between the front faces of the opposing backrests at uncompressed squab height, and
 - (e) the shoulder room of at least one row of rear seats shall be a minimum of 1,360 millimetres.

Taxi Roof Sign

19. Each taxi shall have mounted on its roof at all times while operating as a small public service vehicle a sign (a “taxi roof sign”) complying with the following requirements -
- (a) the taxi roof sign shall be constructed of a durable material, be weatherproof and capable of being securely mounted on the roof of the vehicle so that it is not subject to vibration likely to damage the electric light installation required to be part of its construction,
 - (b) the dimensions of the taxi roof sign shall be such that the surface of the taxi roof sign which is capable of being illuminated shall not be more than 120 millimetres and not less than 110 millimetres in height and not less than 1,030 millimetres and not more than 1,120 millimetres in length,
 - (c) the front and rear faces of the taxi roof sign shall each be divided into three sections,
 - (d) the central sections on each face of the taxi roof sign shall be no less than 300 millimetres and no more than 360 millimetres in width and shall display the word “TAXI” or, in the Irish language, “TACSAI” in yellow letters on a dark blue background of low light transmittance. Each letter shall be no less than 80 millimetres and no more than 90 millimetres in height and no less than 14 millimetres and no more than 16 millimetres in stroke width,
 - (e) the sections of the taxi roof sign on the left of the sign as viewed from the rear of the vehicle and on the right of the sign as viewed from the front shall have a yellow background and shall be no less than 360 millimetres and no more than 425 millimetres in width and shall display on that background in black letters or numerals, as the case may be, -
 - (i) the licence number, each numeral of which shall be no less than 85 millimetres and no more than 90 millimetres in height; the strokes for each numeral shall be no less than 14 millimetres and no more than

16 millimetres broad; the total width of every numeral except the numeral "1" shall be no less than 45 millimetres and no more than 60 millimetres and the spacing between the nearest parts of adjoining numerals shall be approximately 7 millimetres, and

- (ii) above the licence number or to the left hand side or to the right hand side of the licence number, the words "licence number" or, in the Irish language, "uimhir cheadunais",
- (f) no letter or numeral displayed on the remaining sections of each face of the taxi roof sign shall exceed 70 millimetres in height,
- (g) the taxi sign shall be capable of being lit by means of an internal electric light installation to enable the licence number to be readily identifiable,
- (h) when lit, the taxi roof sign shall not show a red light to the front or a white light to the rear,
- (i) when lit, the taxi roof sign shall emit a diffused light and shall be designed to emit a light of a brightness not exceeding 400 candela per square metre of the illuminated area of the sign,
- (j) a taxi shall display on the panel on the right of the taxi roof sign as viewed from the rear and on the left of the sign as viewed from the front of the vehicle the county identification of the driver of that vehicle, which identification shall comprise such content and security features and be of such dimensions as are determined by the Authority,
- (k) the panel on the right of the taxi roof sign as viewed from the rear of the vehicle and on the left of the taxi roof sign as viewed from the front of the vehicle shall contain only –
 - (i) contact details –
 - (A) in relation to the taxi, or
 - (B) in relation to the dispatch operator or the booking service through which the taxi may be booked,
 - (ii) where the driver accepts payment by credit or debit card, a sign approximately 90mm x 90mm in size of the design below, in the colours blue (Pantone reference 534) and green (Pantone reference 382) as indicated,



- (l) a wheelchair accessible taxi shall display on the panel on the right of the taxi roof sign as viewed from the rear of the vehicle and on the left of the taxi roof sign as viewed from the front of the vehicle the following symbol or a substantially similar symbol , which symbol shall be approximately 90 millimetres in height -



- (m) the colour of any blank sections of the panel on the right of the taxi roof sign as viewed from the rear of the vehicle or on the left of the taxi roof sign as viewed from the front of the vehicle shall be yellow,
- (n) a taxi sign shall at no time be so defaced, obscured or altered in such a manner that the word "TAXI" or "TACSAÍ" or the licence number is rendered illegible or partly illegible,
- (o) the taxi sign light shall be capable of being switched on when the vehicle is available for hire and shall accordingly be wired independently of the ignition or the vehicle light switch,
- (p) no protrusions shall be placed on the vehicle roof which would or could obscure any part of the taxi roof sign when viewed from the front or the rear of the vehicle,
- (q) no advertising, symbols, text, lights or other equipment shall be placed on or attached to the taxi roof sign or the roof of the vehicle other than that specified in this Schedule 2, and
- (r) the taxi roof sign shall be capable of being easily removed from the vehicle.

Taximeter and Printer

20. The vehicle shall be fitted with a taximeter in a manner such that it is -
- (a) securely attached to the vehicle so that the taximeter cannot be detached or caused to become inaccurate by the vibration of the engine or by the motion of the vehicle,
 - (b) in such position on the vehicle as to enable a passenger inside the vehicle to easily see and read the taximeter,
 - (c) have the transmitter cable connecting the taximeter with the wheels or the driving mechanism of the vehicle so situated and so protected by an outer cover as to render damage to the cable unlikely,
 - (d) calibrated in accordance with the Maximum Fares Order in accordance with Regulation 57 and the requirements of Schedule 10,
 - (e) fitted with a device capable of printing automatically a receipt showing the details required in accordance with Regulation 59, and
 - (f) be in good order, repair and condition, and fitted where required to be so fitted, with the official verification mark/seals signifying conformity with the Metrology Act, 1996 (No. 27 of 1996).

Vehicle Branding

21. (1) Vinyl self-adhesive approved external sign in the form and colours specified in Part 1 or Part 2 of Schedule 6 shall be affixed to the front door on the left side and the front door on the right side of the vehicle. Such signs shall -
- (a) affixed by an supplier authorised by the Authority;
 - (b) be affixed in a semi-permanent manner that is not capable of being removed in the ordinary course;
 - (c) be complete, in good condition and free from any significant blemish;
- (2) An approved external sign affixed to a taxi by an authorised supplier in accordance with paragraph (1) shall prior to being affixed to the vehicle, be customised by such authorised supplier by inserting the taxi licence number of the vehicle in the space marked "XXXXXX" in the form of approved external sign specified in Part 1 or Part 2 of Schedule 6, as the case may be.
- (3) It is not permissible to affix magnetic signs of the form specified in Schedule 6, or resembling the form specified in Schedule 6, to the exterior doors of a vehicle.

Modified Vehicles

22. Documentation in accordance with Regulation 30 is required in respect of all modified vehicles.

SCHEDULE 3

General Vehicle Requirements for Hackneys

Vehicle Weight and General Characteristics

1. The vehicle shall be a mechanically propelled vehicle which is designed and constructed for the carriage of passengers with passenger seating accommodation for no more than eight persons (exclusive of the driver) and a maximum design gross vehicle weight not exceeding 3,500 kilogrammes.

Wheel Arrangement

2. The vehicle shall have at least four wheels arranged in axle pairs such that the minimum wheelbase is 2,100 millimetres, the minimum track width is 1,100 millimetres and any side to side variation in wheelbase is less than 75 millimetres.

Tyre Load Rating

3. The tyres shall have a load rating appropriate for the design gross vehicle weight, with such tyre load rating to be a minimum of 107 unless documentary evidence from the vehicle manufacturer recommending a lower rating is supplied.

Doors

4. (1) The vehicle shall have a minimum of four doors.
(2) All doors shall be operable from inside or outside the vehicle by a passenger provided that a door may be automatically locked while the vehicle is in motion subject to it automatically unlocking once the vehicle becomes stationary.

Bull Bars

5. No bull bars shall be fitted to the vehicle, except where they are compliant with Regulation 78/2009/EC as amended and evidence of that compliance, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, has been provided.

Doors and Windows

6. (1) All passenger (side) windows shall be readily operable.
(2) All windows shall be clean.
(3) Except for a band of a maximum of 125 millimetres in depth at the top upper edge, the front windscreen of a small public service vehicle shall exhibit 75 per cent minimum visible light transmission.
(4) Subject to (5) below, where a passenger seating position or a wheelchair space is adjacent to a window (other than the front windscreen and the rear windscreen of such vehicle), such window shall exhibit 70 per cent minimum visible light transmission.
(5) The requirements in (4) above shall not apply in respect of a vehicle associated to a standard hackney licence first granted before 1st January 2009 where the vehicle was associated with such licence on 1st January 2013.

Cleanliness

7. The vehicle shall be in a good and clean condition and its interior shall be free of dust, dirt, grime, refuse, litter, objectionable matter or unpleasant smell.

Seating Quality

8. The vehicle shall be fitted with seats which are properly upholstered with leather, good quality artificial leather or other durable material, and which are in a clean and hygienic condition.

Exterior Paint

9. The exterior paint of the vehicle shall exhibit good colour consistency without paint or bodywork repairs in progress.

Luggage Area

10. Any area within the vehicle which is provided for luggage shall be available for passenger luggage and shall not contain any other unsecured items or be dirty or damp.

Passenger Compartment Temperature

11. Except in relation to a standard hackney licence first granted before 1st January 2009, and where the vehicle associated to the licence is the same vehicle as that which was associated to such licence on 1st January 2013, the vehicle shall be capable of maintaining a passenger compartment temperature of 20 degrees centigrade during an external ambient temperature of minus 5 degrees centigrade.

Safety Equipment and Communications

12. The vehicle shall safely carry the following articles: –
 - (a) Subject to (b) a spare wheel system,
 - (b) The Authority may reduce the requirements of paragraph (a) where the vehicle concerned is a series production electric vehicle, a series production hybrid electric vehicle, a series production flexible fuel vehicle or a series production plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, or a vehicle adapted for liquefied petroleum gas or compressed natural gas.
 - (c) a first-aid kit, being a within date first aid kit complying with DIN (Deutsches Institut für Normung) 13164 or comparable travel kit recommended by the Health and Safety Authority,
 - (d) a fire extinguisher, meaning a fire extinguisher in serviceable condition complying with EN3 and suitable for inflammability classes A, B and C, with a minimum capacity of 2 kilogrammes of dry powder or an equivalent capacity for any other suitable extinguishing agent,
 - (e) a reflective advance warning triangle to standard ECE Regulation 27,
 - (f) a high visibility reflective safety vest to standard ANSI 107, BS EN 471 or CEN 471 or equivalent,

- (g) a working handheld torch, and
- (h) a pen and paper.

Interior Lighting

13. The standard fitment interior lighting of the vehicle shall be in operational condition.

Side Facing Seats

14. No side-facing seat shall be fitted in the vehicle.

Vehicle Roof

15. The vehicle shall have a permanent, rigid roof (which may contain a properly fitted sunroof) covering the driver and passenger compartments.

Luggage Capacity

16. (1) Subject to (2) below, the vehicle shall comply with the following requirements:
- (a) The vehicle shall have accommodation for safely transporting luggage of minimum total volume of 420 litres, as measured by the VDA method,
 - (b) A guard or cover shall be fitted to any luggage compartment referred to in paragraph (a) capable of preventing luggage from causing injury to any passenger in the event of an accident,
 - (c) A space consisting of the minimum box dimensions 735 millimetres x 330 millimetres x 805 millimetres shall be provided within the luggage volume specified at paragraph (a) to accommodate a folded wheelchair, and
 - (d) The Authority may reduce the requirements of paragraphs (a) where the vehicle concerned is a series production electric vehicle, a series production hybrid electric vehicle, a series production flexible fuel vehicle or a series production plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, or a vehicle adapted for liquefied petroleum gas or compressed natural gas.
- (2) Where a vehicle is associated with a standard hackney licence first granted before 1st January 2009, and was associated to that licence on 1st January 2013, such vehicle shall have provision for a reasonable quantity of luggage relative to the number of seating positions.

Passenger Seats General Requirements

17. Each passenger seat in a vehicle (other than the seat of a wheelchair) shall -
- (a) have a minimum squab width of 400 millimetres, and
 - (b) shall be firmly and securely fixed in the vehicle when in a position for passenger occupation.

Passenger Seats / Space

18. Except where a vehicle is associated with a standard hackney licence first granted before 1st January 2009, and was associated with that licence on 1st January 2013, the vehicle shall comply with the following requirements –
- (a) the top of any uncompressed front passenger seat squab shall be at least 275 millimetres from the floor of the vehicle,
 - (b) the top of any uncompressed passenger seat squab other than a front passenger seat squab shall be at least 275 millimetres and not more than 460 millimetres from the vehicle floor at the front of the squab,
 - (c) there shall be at least 650 millimetres measured longitudinally and horizontally from the front face of the backrest at uncompressed squab height to the rear face of the seat or the surface immediately in front of the seat,
 - (d) where seats face each other, there shall be at least 1300 millimetres measured longitudinally and horizontally between the front faces of the opposing backrests at uncompressed squab height, and
 - (e) the shoulder room of at least one row of rear seats shall be a minimum of 1,360 millimetres.

Hackney Sign

19. (1) A sign of a size no larger than 500 millimetres by 20 millimetres or equivalent area (10,000 square millimetres) may be displayed beneath the rear registration plate bearing the unique identification mark (registration number) of the vehicle concerned or on the lower half of the rear window.
- (2) The sign referred to in paragraph (1) may contain only the contact details of the owner of the vehicle, the driver of the vehicle, the company which owns the vehicle or to which the vehicle is affiliated or the contact details of the vehicle dealer, agent or supplier.

Modified Vehicles

20. Documentation in accordance with Regulation 30 is required in respect of all modified vehicles.

SCHEDULE 4

Requirements for Wheelchair Accessible Taxis and Wheelchair Accessible Hackneys

Vehicle Specification

1. (1) The vehicle shall be constructed or converted specifically to accommodate at least one passenger in addition to a reference wheelchair and a minimum of three adult passengers in a configuration where no occupied wheelchair is being transported.
- (2) In the case of a wheelchair accessible taxi, seats which are not in use in the configuration for the transport of an occupied wheelchair shall be capable of being folded or otherwise safely stowed in the vehicle.

Accessible Door Dimensions

2. (1) Subject to paragraph (2) the vehicle shall comply with the following requirements:
 - (a) The vehicle shall be fitted with—
 - (i) at least one wheelchair accessible door aperture capable of being opened from inside and outside the vehicle, located to the nearside or rear of the vehicle, affording unrestricted access to the wheelchair space within the vehicle and of minimum unobstructed dimensions of 745 millimetres in width and 1,250 millimetres in opening height, and
 - (ii) at least one other opening door that enables access from inside or outside to the passenger compartment.
 - (b) The rear doors (vertically hinged) or tailgate (horizontally hinged) may be reckoned as an aperture referred to at sub-paragraph (1)(a) (i) if the vehicle concerned was designed for rear wheelchair entry and the doors otherwise meet the dimensions specified therein.
 - (c) The rear doors (vertically hinged) or tailgate (horizontally hinged) may be reckoned as an access opening referred to at sub-paragraph (1)(a) (ii).

Wheelchair Space Dimensions and Prohibitions

3. (1) The vehicle shall have a space for the accommodation of one person to travel either forwards-facing or rearwards-facing seated in a wheelchair.
- (2) The wheelchair space in section (1) shall be not less than 700 millimetres in width and 1,200 millimetres in length. Subject to section (3), minimum headroom of 1,350 millimetres shall be provided in the vicinity of the wheelchair occupant's head,
- (3) Where a vehicle is associated with a wheelchair accessible taxi licence first granted on or before 8 June 2010 and was associated to that licence on 1st January 2013, minimum headroom of 1,300 millimetres shall be provided in the vicinity of the wheelchair occupant's head.

Seat Structural Requirements

4. (1) Subject to paragraph (2) the vehicle shall be fitted with safety belts, belt anchorages, seats, seat anchorages, seat mechanisms, and head restraints that comply with the technical provisions of the relevant passenger car (M1) EC/UNECE standards and documentary evidence of such compliance shall be available in respect of any vehicle modifications.
- (2) In relation to a wheelchair accessible taxi licence first granted before 8th June 2010, and where the vehicle associated to the licence is the same vehicle as that which was associated to such licence on 1st January 2013, the vehicle shall have safety belts, belt anchorages, seats, seat anchorages, seat mechanisms, and head restraints that shall comply with the relevant requirements of the Construction, Equipment and Use Regulations.

Provision of Access Step

5. (1) Where the floor or lowest internal surface of the passenger compartment is more than 230 millimetres above the ground when the vehicle is at normal ride attitude, an intermediate step (an "access step") shall be securely affixed to at least one door aperture located to either the nearside or rear of the wheelchair accessible vehicle.
- (2) Where fitted, kneeling suspension may be lowered to reduce the normal ride attitude prior to any measurement of the passenger compartment floor height.

Access Step Requirements

6. (1) An access step shall have a slip-resistant surface.
- (2) The tread depth of an access step shall be at least 200 millimetres and the width of the step shall be at least 400 millimetres.
- (3) The height of the surface of an access step shall be no more than 230 millimetres from the ground, when the vehicle is at normal ride attitude.
- (4) The maximum slope of an access step in any direction shall not exceed 3° when the vehicle is at normal ride attitude.
- (5) An access step shall have clearly marked rounded nosings of not less than 40 millimetres in a bright colour contrasting to the colour scheme of the general interior.
- (6) While a wheelchair accessible vehicle is in motion, an access step shall not project more than 10 millimetres beyond the widest part (excluding mirrors) of the vehicle exterior.
- (7) The corners or supporting structures of an access step facing forwards or rearwards shall be rounded to a radius of not less than 5 millimetres and the edges of an access step shall be rounded to a radius of not less than 2.5 millimetres.
- (8) Subject to paragraph (7), the edges of an access step shall be rounded to a radius of not less than 2.5 millimetres.
- (9) Protruding parts of an access step made from a material of hardness not exceeding 60 shore A may have a radius of curvature of less than 2.5 millimetres.

- (10) An access step that has been certified as part of the EC Whole Vehicle Type A approved vehicle specification is deemed to have complied with the requirements referred to in paragraphs (5) to (8).

Access Step Integrity

7. An access step shall be designed and constructed to withstand, without permanent deformation or deflection exceeding 10 millimetres, at any point on the access step, the following loads –
- (a) in respect of an access step designed to take one person at a time, a mass of 136 kilogrammes placed in the centre of a single step, or
 - (b) in respect of an access step designed to accommodate more than one person at a time, a mass of 272 kilogrammes placed in the centre of a double step.

Kneeling Suspension System Requirements

8. Where a vehicle is fitted with a kneeling suspension system, such system shall comply with the following provisions:
- (a) a master control and separate user control for the kneeling system function shall be required to enable operation of the system,
 - (b) any control which initiates the lowering or raising of any part or the whole of the body relative to the road surface shall be clearly identified and under the direct control of the driver or the wheelchair occupant or his or her assistant,
 - (c) the lowering process shall be capable of being stopped and immediately reversed by either the master control or the separate user control, and
 - (d) the kneeling system shall not allow the vehicle to be driven at a speed exceeding 5 kilometres per hour where the vehicle is at lower than normal ride attitude.

Boarding Aid

9. (1) Subject to paragraph (3) the vehicle shall comply with the following requirements -
- (a) a vehicle shall be equipped with a wheelchair ramp or powered lift assembly to allow a person travelling in a wheelchair to enter or exit the vehicle safely,
 - (b) where the vehicle is equipped with a powered lift assembly, such powered lift assembly shall comply with the following provisions -
 - (i) be certified by a relevant competent entity as having a minimum safe working load of 300 kilogrammes, and
 - (ii) a lift platform of minimum area 725 millimetres wide x 900 millimetres long,
 - (c) where the vehicle is equipped with a wheelchair ramp, such ramp shall -
 - (i) have a maximum permitted ramp angle of 16° relative to true level, (for side entry vehicles only this shall be assessed with the free end raised 125 millimetres from the ground),

- (ii) be able to accommodate a variety of ground and kerb conditions,
 - (iii) support a combined wheelchair and occupant mass of at least 300kg,
 - (iv) where detachable, be suitable for manual handling,
 - (v) have a safe means of stowage in the vehicle,
 - (vi) where detachable, be permanently marked with the vehicle registration number of the associated vehicle,
 - (vii) where detachable, have an adequate locating device to ensure that it does not slip or tilt when in use,
 - (viii) provide a continuous, slip-resistant surface for the wheels of the wheelchair,
 - (ix) be a minimum of 700 millimetres in width between the edge upturns,
 - (x) have safety edge upturns that are at least 25 millimetres in height,
 - (xi) at all times be in good working order and available for use, and
 - (xii) display a Safe Working Load (SWL) marking,
- (2) The Authority may waive one or more of the requirements of paragraph (1) in respect of a wheelchair ramp or powered lift assembly on the application of a manufacturer in respect of a particular design that cannot accommodate the specification or specifications in question where the Authority is satisfied that the merits of an innovative design solution for the consumer outweigh the desirability of compliance with this specification or specifications.
- (3) In relation to a wheelchair accessible taxi licence first granted before 8th June 2010, and where the vehicle associated to the licence is the same vehicle as that which was associated to such licence on 1st January 2013, such vehicle shall be provided with a ramp or other mechanism to permit the safe entry and egress of a passenger seated in a wheelchair. The ramp or other mechanism shall be capable of transporting a combined wheelchair and occupant mass of 300 kilogrammes minimum between the road and the vehicle interior without the assistance of any person but the driver of the vehicle and at all times be in good working order and available for use, and display a Safe Working Load (SWL) marking. A ramp, where used, shall be such as to provide at least 3.6 units of length for each unit of height, measured at its highest point. The ramp(s), where detachable, shall have an adequate locating device to ensure that they do not slip or tilt when in use.

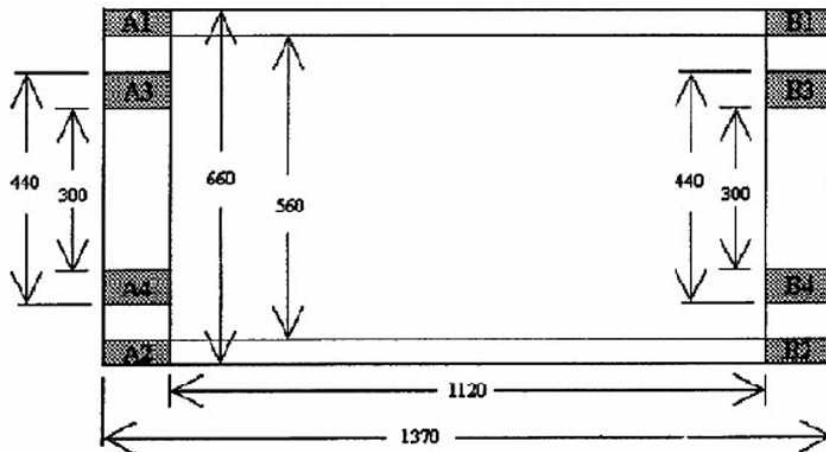
Wheelchair and Occupant Restraint Requirements

10. (1) Subject to paragraph (2) the vehicle shall comply with the following requirements -
- (a) a wheelchair space shall be fitted with –
 - (i) a restraint system in respect of the wheelchair occupant with a minimum of three belt anchorage points providing pelvic and upper torso restraints designed and constructed to perform in a manner similar to a safety belt, and

- (ii) a wheelchair restraint system suitable for general wheelchair applications,
 - (b) a wheelchair restraint system shall be capable of being securely attached to the vehicle belt anchorages,
 - (c) a wheelchair occupant restraint system shall be capable of being securely attached to the vehicle belt anchorages,
 - (d) the wheelchair restraint belt anchorages shall be symmetrically located longitudinally relative to the wheelchair space provided,
 - (e) subject to paragraph (6), a minimum of four restraints shall be provided in respect of each wheelchair; two front and two rear for the purpose of securing the wheelchair to the vehicle wheelchair restraint belt anchorages,
 - (f) a vehicle with EC Whole Vehicle Type A fitted with alternative wheelchair restraints and proven to the satisfaction of the Authority to have successfully demonstrated an equivalent level of performance to that set out in Schedule 7 will be considered acceptable,
 - (g) an application for a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence shall include documentary proof that the wheelchair restraint belt anchorages have met the standards set out in Schedule 7,
 - (h) an application for a wheelchair accessible taxi licence or wheelchair accessible hackney licence shall include documentary proof that the wheelchair occupant restraint belt anchorages have met the standards set out in Schedule 7,
 - (i) each tie down or restraint device shall be clearly marked or designed or permanently attached to its belt anchorages in a manner to avoid the attachment of a tie down or restraint to the incorrect belt anchorage, and
 - (j) tie downs, straps, components and sub-assemblies of wheelchair restraint systems equipment shall comply with the requirements of the relevant part of ISO 10542 or equivalent international standard and be marked accordingly.
- (2) In relation to a wheelchair accessible taxi licence first granted before 8th June 2010, and where the vehicle associated to the licence is the same vehicle as that which was associated to such licence on 1st January 2013, the vehicle shall comply with the following requirements -
- (a) the area designated for the accommodation of the wheelchair and its occupant (the wheelchair space) which shall be provided with a restraint system or systems fixed to the structure of the vehicle by an appropriate means for the purpose of securing the wheelchair and its occupant.
 - (b) for the purpose of sub-paragraph (a), an appropriate means shall be deemed to have been provided where the vehicle is equipped as follows –
 - (i) four restraints – two to the front and two to the rear – shall be provided for the purpose of connecting the wheelchair to anchorage points on the vehicle,

- (ii) a minimum of a lap belt shall be provided for the purpose of securing the wheelchair occupant,
- (iii) fixed anchorage points shall be provided for each wheelchair restraint and for the lap belt, or alternatively straight tracks shall be provided that allow for variation in the location of anchorage points.

The location of anchorage points under either of these arrangements shall be such as to provide, as a minimum, one anchorage point in each of the locations A1 and A2, or alternatively A3 and A4, in addition to one anchorage point in each of the locations B1 and B2 or alternatively B3 and B4 as set out in the following drawing:—



All dimensions in mm

- (iv) the wheelchair's front and rear restraints shall be connected to the front and rear anchorage points, respectively. A lap belt shall either be connected to the two rear restraints of the wheelchair, to the two rear anchorage points for the wheelchair or to two anchorage points positioned to provide downward and rearward restraint on the pelvic area of the wheelchair occupant,
- (v) each single fixed anchorage point shall be attached to the structure of the vehicle by a high tensile bolt or set screw of not less than 10 millimetres in diameter with a reinforcing plate or washer having no sharp edges and measuring not less than 75 cm² in size and not less than 3 mm in thickness — fastened tightly with a locknut,
- (vi) where a track is used it shall have a minimum length of 200 millimetres and shall be attached to the structure of the vehicle by a minimum of 4 high tensile bolts or set screws of not less than 6 millimetres in diameter with reinforcing plates or washers not less than 35 cm² in size and not less than 1 mm in thickness — fastened tightly with a locknut. For each additional length of track, measuring

120 millimetres or part thereof, there shall be at least one additional bolt or screw conforming to the above specification. The bolts or set screws nearest each end of the track shall be located not more than 25 millimetres from the ends of the track and the distance between adjacent bolts or set screws shall not be less than 75 millimetres nor more than 125 millimetres,

- (vii) if the location of an anchorage point is contoured, the reinforcing plate or washer shall be formed to fit the shape of the area and shall be augmented, if necessary, with a shaped spacer so as to ensure that the face of the locknut is parallel to the surface against which it is tightened, and
- (viii) in any case where the bolts or set screws pass through doubleskin or hollow panels, spacers of the correct dimensions shall be used to avoid compressing or causing distortion to the panels.

User Manual

- 11. A user manual detailing the correct use of the vehicle's wheelchair related equipment shall be kept in the vehicle.

Handholds

- 12. The vehicle shall be equipped with a handhold or rail to assist a passenger to access to or exit from the vehicle, such handhold or rail shall -
 - (a) be approximately 30 millimetres in diameter,
 - (b) have a clearance of at least 35 millimetres between the inside of the working surface of a handhold or rail and any adjacent surface,
 - (c) be slip-resistant, and
 - (d) be brightly coloured contrasting to the colour scheme of the general interior.

Targeted Interior Lighting

- 13. The vehicle shall be equipped with localised lighting of not less than 200 lux at the entrance step and the background interior lighting level shall be not less than 150 lux.

Flooring

- 14. The vehicle which shall be fitted with slip-resistant flooring. Any transitions between the floor and the doorways or seats shall be delineated in a bright colour contrasting to the colour scheme of the general interior.

Intercom and Induction Loop

- 15. Where a vehicle is fitted with a full dividing screen, partition or bulkhead between the driver and passenger compartment, the vehicle shall be fitted with an intercom and induction loop. Where an intercom and induction loop is fitted, signage shall be clearly displayed in the passenger compartment to advise passengers of these facilities.

Accessibility Symbol (wheelchair accessible hackney only)

16. A wheelchair accessible hackney shall display externally on a passenger door the following symbol or a substantially similar symbol of not less than 105 millimetres in height and of a clearly contrasting colour:



Modified Vehicles

17. Documentation in accordance with Regulation 30 is required in respect of all modified vehicles.

SCHEDULE 5

General Vehicle Requirements for Limousines

Vehicle Weight and General Characteristics

1. The vehicle shall be a mechanically propelled vehicle which is designed and constructed for the carriage of passengers with passenger seating accommodation for no more than eight persons (exclusive of the driver). Other than a vehicle in respect of which a small public service vehicle licence was in force in respect of the vehicle on 1 January 2013, the vehicle shall have a maximum design gross vehicle weight not exceeding 3,500 kilogrammes

Wheel Arrangement

2. The vehicle shall have at least four wheels arranged in axle pairs such that the minimum wheelbase is 2,100 millimetres, the minimum track width is 1,100 millimetres and any side to side variation in wheelbase is less than 75 millimetres.

Tyre Load Rating

3. The tyres shall have a load rating appropriate for the design gross vehicle weight, with such tyre load rating to be a minimum of 107 unless documentary evidence from the vehicle manufacturer recommending a lower rating is supplied.

Doors and Windows

4. (1) Where a passenger is carried in a compartmented section of the vehicle (i.e. an area with seats and a permanent rigid roof), there shall be at least two doors that open into or from this compartmented area. A rear door (vertically hinged) shall constitute a door for the purposes of this paragraph, provided it was clearly designed or constructed for the intended purpose of passenger access.
(2) All doors shall be operable from inside or outside the vehicle by a passenger provided that a door may be automatically locked while the vehicle is in motion subject to it automatically unlocking once the vehicle becomes stationary.
(3) All passenger (side) windows shall be readily operable.
(4) All windows shall be clean.
(5) Except for a band of a maximum of 125 millimetres in depth at the top upper edge, the front windscreen of a small public service vehicle shall exhibit 75 per cent minimum visible light transmission.

Bull Bars

5. No bull bars shall be fitted to the vehicle, except where they are compliant with Regulation 78/2009/EC as amended and evidence of that compliance, in form and substance satisfactory to the Authority, has been provided.

Cleanliness

6. The vehicle shall be in a good and clean condition and its interior shall be free of dust, dirt, grime, refuse, litter, objectionable matter or unpleasant smell.

Seating Quality

7. The vehicle shall be fitted with seats which are properly upholstered with leather, good quality artificial leather or other durable material, and which are in a clean and hygienic condition.

Exterior Paint

8. The exterior paint of the vehicle shall exhibit good colour consistency without paint or bodywork repairs in progress.

Passenger Compartment Temperature

9. Other than in respect of a vehicle exceeding thirty years of age, the vehicle shall be capable of maintaining a passenger compartment temperature of 20 degrees centigrade during an external ambient temperature of minus 5 degrees centigrade.

Safety Equipment and Communications

10. The vehicle shall safely carry the following articles –
 - (a) Subject to (b) a spare wheel system,
 - (b) The Authority may reduce the requirements of paragraph (a) where the vehicle concerned exceeds thirty years of age or the vehicle is a series production electric vehicle, a series production hybrid electric vehicle, a series production flexible fuel vehicle or a series production plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, or a vehicle adapted for liquefied petroleum gas or compressed natural gas.
 - (c) a first-aid kit, being a within date first aid kit complying with DIN (Deutsches Institut für Normung) 13164 or comparable travel kit recommended by the Health and Safety Authority,
 - (d) a fire extinguisher, meaning a fire extinguisher in serviceable condition complying with EN3 and suitable for inflammability classes A, B and C, with a minimum capacity of 2 kilogrammes of dry powder or an equivalent capacity for any other suitable extinguishing agent,
 - (e) a reflective advance warning triangle to standard ECE Regulation 27,
 - (f) a high visibility reflective safety vest to standard ANSI 107, BS EN 471 or CEN 471 or equivalent,
 - (g) a working handheld torch, and
 - (h) a pen and paper.

Interior Lighting

11. The standard fitment interior lighting of the vehicle shall be in operational condition.

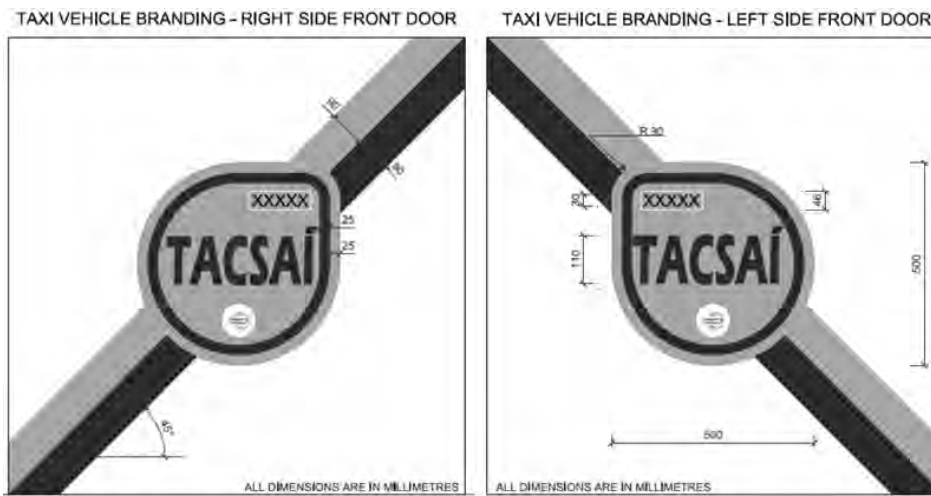
Modified Vehicles

12. Documentation in accordance with Regulation 30 is required in respect of all modified vehicles.

SCHEDULE 6

Taxi Branding

Part 1



ALPHA NUMERIC CHARACTER OF LICENCE NUMBER = X
■ COLOUR = PANTONE 534
■ COLOUR = PANTONE 382
"TACSAI" TEXT HEIGHT = 110mm
LICENCE NUMBER TEXT FONT = HELVETICA BOLD
LICENCE NUMBER TEXT COLOUR = BLACK

NOTE:
DIAGONAL STRIP TO BE EXTENDED
IN EACH CASE TO THE RELEVANT
CORNER OF THE VEHICLE DOOR
AND TRIMMED AT DOOR EDGE

Part 2

TAXI VEHICLE BRANDING - RIGHT SIDE FRONT DOOR



TAXI VEHICLE BRANDING - LEFT SIDE FRONT DOOR



ALPHA NUMERIC CHARACTER OF LICENCE NUMBER = X
■ COLOUR = PANTONE 534
■ COLOUR = PANTONE 382
"TAXI" TEXT HEIGHT = 150mm
LICENCE NUMBER TEXT FONT = HELVETICA BOLD
LICENCE NUMBER TEXT COLOUR = BLACK

NOTE:
DIAGONAL STRIP TO BE EXTENDED
IN EACH CASE TO THE RELEVANT
CORNER OF THE VEHICLE DOOR
AND TRIMMED AT DOOR EDGE

SCHEDULE 7

Wheelchair and Occupant Restraint Belt Anchorage Requirements (Static Test)

1. A static test should be carried out on the belt anchorage points for both the wheelchair restraint system and the wheelchair occupant restraints in accordance with the requirements below -
 - (a) the forces specified in subparagraph 2(a) should be applied by means of a device reproducing the geometry of the wheelchair restraint system i.e. rigid surrogate wheelchair with attachment points for front and rear restraints,
 - (b) the forces specified in subparagraph 2(b) should be applied by means of a traction device specified in paragraph 5.3.4 of Annex 1 of Council Directive 76/115/EEC, as amended, and supported on the device defined in paragraph (a),
 - (c) the forces in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above should be applied simultaneously in the forward direction and at an angle of between 5° and 15° above the horizontal plane,
 - (d) the forces in subparagraph (a) above should be applied in the rearward direction and at an angle of between 5° and 15° above the horizontal plane,
 - (e) the forces should be applied as rapidly as possible (a maximum load introduction time of ten seconds) through the central vertical axis of the wheelchair space,
 - (f) the force should be maintained for a period of not less than 0.2 seconds, and
 - (g) the test should be carried out on a vehicle or a representative section of the vehicle structure together with any fitting provided in the vehicle which is likely to contribute to the strength or rigidity of the structure. Only the components of the wheelchair restraint and occupant restraint devices which form part of the belt anchorages with the vehicle are required for the purposes of the test.
2. The forces referred to in paragraph 1 are -
 - (a) in the case of belt anchorages provided for the wheelchair restraint system -
 - (i) 22250N ± 200N applied in the longitudinal plane of the vehicle and towards the front of the vehicle at a height of not less than 200 millimetres and not more than 300 millimetres measured vertically above the floor of the wheelchair space, and
 - (ii) 11100N ± 200N applied in the longitudinal plane of the vehicle and towards the rear of the vehicle at a height of not less than 200 millimetres and not more than 300 millimetres measured vertically above the floor of the wheelchair space,
 - (b) in the case of belt anchorages provided for a wheelchair occupant restraint system, the forces should be in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 5.4 of Annex 1 of Directive 76/115/EEC, as amended for M1 vehicles.

3. A test carried out under paragraph 1 shall fail unless the following requirements are met -
- (a) no part of the system should have failed, or should have become detached from its belt anchorage or from the vehicle during the test,
 - (b) any mechanism to release the wheelchair and user should be capable of release after completion of the test, and
 - (c) no part of the system should be deformed to such an extent after completion of the test that, because of sharp edges or other protrusions, the part is capable of causing injury.

SCHEDULE 8**Fixed Payment Offences – Prescribed Amounts**

Ref	Offence	Penalty
1	Failure to display required in-vehicle information.	€40
2	Standing at appointed stand while vehicle not available for hire.	€40
3	Standing for hire in taxi or wheelchair accessible taxi otherwise than at an appointed stand.	€40
4	Refusal to carry Assistance Dog or Guide Dog in small public service vehicle.	€40
5	Failure to provide receipt in respect of taxi or wheelchair accessible taxi.	€40
6	Failure to provide receipt in respect of hackney or limousine.	€40
7	Standing or plying for hire in a county without satisfactory local knowledge.	€40
8	Failure to comply with taxi roof sign requirements	€40
9	Displaying on a hackney or limousine a sign or advertisement other than one prescribed by the National Transport Authority.	€40
10	Failure to notify details of small public service vehicle being operated.	€40
11	Operating taximeter while taxi standing for hire or plying for hire.	€60
12	Failure to operate taximeter while taxi on hire.	€60
13	Failure to comply with the requirements in relation to the fitting and operation of a taximeter.	€60
14	Applying a booking fee in respect of a taxi or wheelchair accessible taxi where engaged while plying for hire or standing for hire or without having been booked in advance by the consumer.	€60
15	Plying for hire or standing for hire in a hackney or limousine.	€60
16	Failure to display required driver identification.	€60
17	Failure to safely carry prescribed safety articles	€60
18	Failure to carry document in vehicle being driven in, into or out of a taximeter area.	€60
19	Failure to have a boarding aid in, or as part of a wheelchair accessible taxi or wheelchair accessible hackney.	€60
20	Failure to have a wheelchair restraint system and wheelchair occupant restraint system in a wheelchair accessible taxi or wheelchair accessible hackney.	€60
21	Removal or attempted removal of tamper-proof disc from a small public service vehicle.	€80
22	Failure to display tamper-proof disc.	€80
23	Unreasonable refusal to carry passenger where journey not more than 30 kilometres.	€80
24	Failure to have taximeter calibrated in line with current maximum fare	€250

	order.	
25	Displaying forged driver identification on small public service vehicle.	€250
26	Failure to have prescribed signage affixed to the front doors of taxi or wheelchair accessible taxi.	€250

SCHEDULE 9

Form of Fixed Payment Notice

Notice under section 48 of the Taxi Regulation Act 20[•]

Date(insert date)

(insert name).....

(insert address).....

.....

Alleged Offence

It is alleged that you have committed an offence (specify offence), involving the use of a small public service vehicle bearing licence number (insert licence number) in a public place at (insert location) at (insert time) on (insert date).

Name of authorised person:

Signature of authorised person:

Fixed Payment

1. In respect of the offence alleged in this notice you may, during the period of 28 days, beginning on the date of this notice, pay a fixed charge of €_____ (otherwise than in cash) to the National Transport Authority at (insert address).

2. If no payment is made during the period specified in (1), during the period 28 days beginning on the expiration of that period, a fixed charge of an amount 50 per cent greater than the prescribed amount referred to in (1)

3A fixed payment made under this notice must be accompanied by all of this notice, if payment is made in person or by post.

4 You will not be prosecuted –

(a) during the period specified in (1) and (2) , or

(b) at all,

if the correct payment, in accordance with this notice, during that period, is made in respect of the offence specified in this notice.

Michael Fullerton 22/11/13 11:26
Comment: The inclusion of payment on issue of a summons need not be on this notice? Once a summons has been issued, then additional payment option can be sent from Legal.

Manner of Payment

All fixed payments made under section 48 of the Taxi Regulation Act 20[•] shall be paid to the National Transport Authority, Dun Scéine, Harcourt Lane, Dublin 2 and shall be so paid (otherwise

Draft: 9th December 2013

than in cash) by cheque, money order or postal order, or by such other means as the Authority for the time being considers appropriate.

KFF\8760875.2

SCHEDULE 10**Maximum Fares Order**

In this Schedule and Regulations "public holiday" has the same meaning as it has in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Second Schedule to the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997 with the addition, where a public holiday falls on a Sunday, of the following weekday.

The fares contained in this Schedule are fixed as the maximum fares that may be charged by the driver of a taxi in respect of the State.

Standard Fare

Applies 08.00 hours to 20.00 hours

Initial Fare

Monetary Value	€4.10	
Distance Allowance	1,000.0	metres
Time Allowance	170.0	seconds

Tariff A

Monetary Unit	€0.20	
Distance Allowance	194.2	metres
Time Allowance	33.0	seconds
Hourly Rate	€21.84	
Rate per km	€1.03	

Tariff A initiated at switch of running total from	€4.10	
to	€4.30	

Range of Tariff A	€14.60	
-------------------	--------	--

Graduates to Tariff B when running total switches from	€18.70	
to	€18.90	

Maximum Unit Increments on Tariff A	73	
-------------------------------------	----	--

Range of Tariff A when charged only on distance	14,176.6	metres
---	----------	--------

<i>Mileage of journey elapsed when switching to Tariff B</i>	15,176.6	metres
--	----------	--------

Range of Tariff A when charged only on time	2,407.0	seconds
---	---------	---------

<i>Range of Tariff A when charged only on time (mins)</i>	40.12	
---	-------	--

Mins of journey elapsed when switching to B 42.95

Tariff B

Monetary Unit €0.20

Distance Allowance 148.1 metres

Time Allowance 25.2 seconds

Hourly Rate €28.62

Rate per km €1.35

Tariff B initiated at switch of running total from €18.70
to €18.90

Range of Tariff B €20.20

Graduates to Tariff C when running total switches from €38.90
to €39.10
Maximum Unit Increments on Tariff B 101.0

Range of Tariff B when charged only on distance 14,958.1 metres

Mileage of journey elapsed when switching to Tariff C 30,135 metres

Range of Tariff B when charged only on time 2,540.9 seconds

Range of Tariff B when charged only on time (mins) 42.35 mins

Mins of journey elapsed when switching to C 85.30 mins

Unit Increments on Tariff B if you didn't allow for the excess over 15km travelled on initial charge and Tariff A 102.0

Tariff C

Monetary Unit €0.20

Distance Allowance 113.0 metres

Time Allowance 19.2 seconds

Hourly Rate €37.52

Rate per km €1.77

Tariff C initiated when running total switches from €38.90
€39.10

To

Tariff C applies for the remainder of the journey

Premium Fare

Always applies 20.00 hours to 08.00 hours & all day
Sunday and public holidays except Christmas and New
Year

Initial Fare

Monetary Value	€4.45	
Distance Allowance	1,000.0	metres
Time Allowance	170.0	seconds

Tariff A

Monetary Unit	€0.20	
Distance Allowance	148.1	metres
Time Allowance	25.2	seconds
Hourly Rate	€28.62	
Rate per km	€1.35	

Tariff A initiated at switch from to	€4.45 €4.65	
Range of Tariff A	€19.00	
Graduates to Tariff B when running total switched from to	€23.45 €23.65	
Maximum Unit Increments on Tariff A	95.0	
Range of Tariff A when charged only on distance	14,069.5	metres
Mileage of journey elapsed when switching to Tariff B	15,069.5	
Range of Tariff A when charged only on time	2,389.9	seconds
Range of Tariff A when charged only on time (mins)	39.83	mins
Mins of journey elapsed when switching to B	42.67	mins

Tariff B

Monetary Unit	€0.20	
Distance Allowance	127.4	metres
Time Allowance	21.6	seconds
Hourly Rate	€33.28	
Rate per km	€1.57	

Tariff B initiated at switch of running total from to	€23.45 €23.65	
Range of Tariff B	€23.60	
Graduates to Tariff C when running total switches from to	€47.05 €47.25	
Maximum Unit Increments on Tariff B	118.0	
Range of Tariff B when charged only on distance	15,033.2	metres
<i>Mileage of journey elapsed when switching to Tariff C</i>	30,102.7	metres
Range of Tariff B when charged only on time	2,552.6	seconds
<i>Range of Tariff B when charged only on time (mins)</i>	42.54	mins
<i>Mins of journey elapsed when switching to C</i>	85.21	mins
Unit Increments on Tariff B if you didn't allow for the excess over 15km travelled on initial charge and Tariff A	118.0	

Tariff C

Monetary Unit	€0.20	
Distance Allowance	113.0	metres
Time Allowance	19.19	seconds
Hourly Rate	€37.52	
Rate per km	€1.77	

Tariff C initiated when running total switches from To	€47.05 €47.25	
--	------------------	--

Tariff C applies for the remainder of the journey

Special Premium Rate for Christmas & New Year

A special premium rate applies between Christmas Eve 20:00h to St. Stephens Day 08:00h and New Years Eve 20:00h to New Years Day 08:00h. During these periods the Premium Tariff C is applied immediately after the Premium Initial Charge

Initial Fare

Monetary Value	€4.45	
Distance Allowance	1,000.0	metres
Time Allowance	170.0	seconds

Tariff C

Monetary Unit	€0.20	
Distance Allowance	113.0	metres
Time Allowance	19.19	seconds
Hourly Rate	€37.52	
Rate per km	€1.77	
Tariff C initiated when running total switches from	€4.45	
to	€4.65	

Tariff C applies for the remainder of the journey

Extra metered charges (where applicable)

Booking fee:	€2.00
Each additional passenger after the first passenger:	€1.00 per additional adult passenger (or per each additional two children under 12 years)

Soiling Charge, where applicable €140.00