



Taxi And Private Hire Vehicle Drivers - Information Regarding Medical Report

Medical Report on an applicant for a Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicle Driver's Licence

If this is your first application for the above you **MUST** submit a Medical Report form completed by a Doctor who has full knowledge of your medical history. A Medical Report will then be required every 6 years thereafter. This policy may be amended if your medical condition warrants examination on a more regular basis. A medical examination will be required every year once a licensed driver reaches 65 years of age.

East Lindsey District Council requires drivers of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles to attain the DVLA Group 2 Vocational Licence Standard. This is the same medical standard that a lorry or bus driver needs to achieve. The standard is a higher medical standard than that required for an ordinary Group 1 DVLA driver's licence

A: WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO

1. **BEFORE** consulting your Doctor please read the notes overleaf at **Section C, paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4** ("Medical standards for drivers of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles"). If you have any of these conditions you will **NOT** normally be granted this entitlement.

2. If, after reading the notes, you have any doubts about your ability to meet the medical or eyesight standards, consult your Doctor **BEFORE** you arrange for this medical form to be completed. The Doctor will normally charge you for completing it. In the event of your application being refused, the fee you pay the Doctor is **NOT** refundable. The Council has **NO** responsibility for the fee payable to the Doctor.
3. Fill in **Section 8** of the report in the presence of the Doctor carrying out the examination.
4. The report must be submitted to the Council together with your application. The report must be received at the Council within two months of the Doctor signing it. If the report is in respect of an application for licence renewal, then it must be received together with all other relevant documentation on or before the licence expiry date.

B. WHAT THE DOCTOR HAS TO DO

1. Please complete sections 1-7 and 9 of the report. You may find it helpful to consult the DVLA's "Assessing Fitness to Drive: A Guide for Medical Professionals" publication available at www.gov.uk. Drivers of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles are required by

the Council to attain **DVLA Group 2 Vocational Licence Standard**.

2. Applicants who show no symptoms at the time of the examination should be advised that, if in future they develop symptoms of a condition which could affect safe driving and they hold a hackney carriage or private hire driver's licence, they must inform the Council immediately. If the report does not bring out important clinical details with respect to acting as a licensed driver, please give details in Sections 5 and 7.
3. **The Report must only be completed by a Medical Practitioner who has full knowledge of the applicant's medical history.**
4. **PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE COMPLETED ALL THE SECTIONS AND STATED WHETHER THE APPLICANT IS FIT OR UNFIT TO HOLD A HCV OR PHV DRIVER'S LICENCE OR PERHAPS REQUIRES FUTHER MEDICAL INVESTIGATION.**

C: MEDICAL STANDARDS FOR HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS

East Lindsey District Council's medical standards for drivers of hackney carriage and private hire vehicles are higher than those required for a normal car drivers (DVLA) licence. The following conditions are normally a bar to the holding of a hackney carriage or private hire drivers licence:

1. EPILEPSY ATTACKS

Applicants must **NOT** "have a liability to epileptic seizures", (this means that applicants must have been free of epileptic seizures for at least the last ten years and have not taken anti epileptic medication during this ten year period). With such a liability the Council will refuse or revoke a licence.

2. DIABETES

An applicant using insulin for diabetes must produce both a declaration from a diabetes consultant and a declaration signed by himself, confirming a satisfactory level of control and monitoring as specified in the Licensing Team form "Medical statement for drivers with diabetes using insulin". He should not be considered fit to hold a licence until this is done. The aforementioned form is available by contacting the Council's Licensing Team.

An applicant taking sulphonylureas or glinides must produce both a declaration from a doctor and from himself confirming a satisfactory level of control and monitoring as specified in the Licensing Team form "Medical statement for drivers with tablets controlled diabetes" but may be allowed a period of grace to obtain this evidence.

3. EYESIGHT

All applicants must be able to read in good daylight a number plate at 20 metres, and, if glasses or corrective lenses are required to do so, these must be worn while driving. In addition applicants must have:

- A VISUAL ACUITY OF AT LEAST 6/7.5 IN THE BETTER EYE; AND

- A VISUAL ACUITY OF AT LEAST 6/60 IN THE WORST EYE; AND

Complete loss of vision in one eye or corrected acuity of less than 3/60 in one eye – applicant will not be granted a licence.

APPLICANTS WILL ALSO NORMALLY BE REFUSED A LICENCE IF THEY HAVE:

- UNCONTROLLED DIPLOPIA (DOUBLE VISION)
- OR DO NOT HAVE A NORMAL BINOCULAR FIELD OF VISION

4. OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Ischaemic Heart Disease

A person who has a history of established ischaemic heart disease including a heart attack, angina, or insertion of a stent at any time in the past, whether recent or distant, must have three yearly exercise treadmill tests or another equivalent functional test and be able to demonstrate a satisfactory standard equivalent to DVLA Group 2 standard. Such exercise test will be at the applicant's own expense – the Council will not be responsible for any costs associated with a test.

In addition to those medical conditions set out above, applicants (or licence holders) will normally be refused if they are unable to meet the recommended guidelines in the following cases:

- Hypertension where the BP is persistently 180 systolic or over or 100 diastolic or over.
- A stroke, or transient ischaemic attack (TIA) within the last 12 months.
- Unexplained loss of consciousness within the past 5 years.
- Meniere's and other conditions causing disabling vertigo, within the past 1 year, and with a liability to recurrence.
- Recent severe head injury with serious continuing effects, or major brain surgery.
- Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis or other "chronic" neurological disorders likely to affect limb power and co-ordination.

- Suffering from an acute psychotic illness in the past 3 years, or suffering from dementia.
- Alcohol dependency or misuse or persistent drug or substance misuse or dependency in the past 1 or 3 years (dependent on drug involved and the persistence of use).
- Profound deafness or profound speech impairment preventing communication by speech (or by using a device e.g. a minicom) in an emergency.
- A sleep disorder where satisfactory control of symptoms has not been attained.
- Any history of malignant intracranial tumour in adult life.
- Any other serious medical condition which may cause problems when acting as a hackney carriage or private hire driver.

Taxi and private hire drivers, licensed by East Lindsey District Council, must achieve the same medical standard as the DVLA Group 2 Standard.

Contact Details:

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