

CONDITIONS APPLIED TO STRETCHED LIMOUSINES USED AS PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

These conditions made under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 are specific to a vehicle adapted by lengthening the wheelbase of a standard, factory built vehicle. The purpose of these conditions is to protect public safety. They apply in addition to the Authority's standard conditions for private hire vehicles and take account of the fact that stretched limousines will:

- i) travel generally at slower speeds than normal taxis
- ii) not normally overtake other vehicles
- iii) be easily recognisable by the hirer
- iv) be heavier and considerably longer than standard cars
- v) be adapted or converted by someone other than the original manufacturer.

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 These conditions apply to stretched limousines as defined in paragraphs 1.2 and 1.3 below, where the vehicle is constructed or adapted to seat up to 8 passengers.
- 1.2 A "stretched limousine", is a saloon type vehicle that has undergone an increase in length by extending the wheelbase after manufacture.
- 1.3 An "American stretched limousine" is a stretched limousine imported from the USA and typically will have been manufactured originally by Lincoln (Ford) or Cadillac.
- 1.4 For the purposes of calculating the seating capacity of a vehicle the minimum width of a passenger seat is 400mm (16 inches). In the case of an 'L' shaped seat, sufficient space must be made available in the corner to prevent the passenger on one side of the corner encroaching on the passenger on the other side.

2. CONDITIONS

A stretched limousine shall, in the first instance, meet with the standard conditions relating to hackney carriage and private hire vehicles, with the exception that the vehicle may be left hand drive, have darkened glass to the rear passenger windows, have some side facing seats, may not have seat belts for all passengers, and will not be required to

display door stickers and a licence plate on the rear of the vehicle. A Licence plate and disc showing the licence details must be displayed inside the vehicle.

- 2.1 In the case of a stretched limousine, or American stretched limousine, originals of the following documentation will be required by the Council before an initial application for a vehicle licence can be considered:
- (a) Completed importation documentation where applicable and single vehicle approval (SVA) certificate. Please note a Minister's Approval Certificate is not acceptable.
 - (b) DVLA Registration Document (V5).
 - (c) Valid Certificate of Insurance, with cover for hire and reward.
 - (d) Current MOT certificate issued by an approved Testing Station.
 - (e) Where applicable, an installation certificate from a Liquified Petroleum Gas Association (LPGA) Approved UK Vehicle Conversion Company, in the case of vehicles converted to run on LPG.
 - (f) Valid Road Vehicle Excise licence disc.
- 2.2 The Vehicle shall comply with the following:
- (a) Be equipped with a minimum of four road wheels and a full sized spare wheel.
 - (b) Be equipped with tyres designed and manufactured to support the maximum permitted axle weight for the axle when the vehicle is driven at the maximum speed. Applicants to provide evidence of tyre suitability if requested.
 - (c) Seat belts, where fitted, must be fitted in accordance with the current Road Vehicle (Construction and Use) Regulations.
 - (d) The maximum length of the stretch conversion (measured between the rear edge of the front door and the front edge of the rear door) shall not exceed 3048mm/120".
- 2.3 Where alcohol drink is supplied in the vehicle, the proprietor shall deposit a copy of his or her premises licence with the Local Authority. No person, under the age of 18 years, being conveyed in a stretched limousine shall be allowed to consume alcohol.
- 2.4 Tinted glass shall conform to the legal requirements of the current Road Vehicle (Construction and Use) Regulations.
- 2.5 Children under the age of 14 years shall not be carried in a stretched limousine unless accompanied by the parent or guardian of at least one of the children.