

Penalty Points System for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers, Vehicle Proprietors and Operators

The Scheme will cover all Drivers, Vehicle Proprietors and Private Hire Operators licensed by Epsom & Ewell Borough Council (The Authority). Where an offence or breach has been witnessed by an Authorised Officer and/or admitted, then Points will be endorsed against an individual or operator. When an individual has accrued 12 points within a two year rolling period, or commits the same offence/breach three times in a 12 month period then the individual will be referred to the Licensing Hearings Sub-Committee.

The Scheme will not bar the Authority from administering a caution or initiating legal proceedings following an offence or breach of condition or Byelaw, and Points may also be issued following a prosecution in appropriate cases. The Scheme shows the maximum points for the offence; the Grants and Licensing Team Leader will have discretion to decide on the points given based on circumstances. If more than one offence takes place the points will be added consecutively to the individual's file.

Vehicle offences	Points
Failure to keep the interior and exterior in a clean and tidy condition, free from damage	6
Failure to display internal identification plate and/or securely fix the external identification plate to the rear of the vehicle as instructed by an Authorised Officer, or failure to keep exemption notice in vehicle.	6
Failure to carry a fully serviceable Fire Extinguisher	6
Failure to provide valid hire and reward insurance within a seven day period on request of the Authority.	8
Making a false statement or withholding information to obtain a licence	12
Failure to notify change of name, address, telephone number or Operator within seven days of change.	6
Plying for hire (*); Unlawful Touting or Soliciting Customers (#)	12
Refusal to take passenger without good cause	4
Charging more than the metered fare	8
Using an unlicensed or uninsured vehicle for hire or reward	12
Failure to notify transfer of ownership for Private Hire or Hackney Carriage.	4
Failure to present vehicle for inspection at time appointed by an Authorised Officer	4
Failure to report an accident to local authority	6
Failure to return plate after notice given after expiry, revocation or suspension of Private Hire Vehicle License (except Dual Licensed Vehicles)	4
Evidence of smoking in a vehicle ascertained by officers whilst carrying out vehicle checks	4
Stationary Hackney Carriage Vehicle plying for hire whilst parked other than on a designated rank.	6
Driver offences	Points
Failure to be clean and presentable whilst working (clothing to be clean, smart casual and secure footwear suitable for driving must be worn ie no vests or flip-flops)	4
Failure to reasonably assist passengers without good cause or exemption certificate	6
Driving a licensed vehicle without a valid Hackney or Private Hire Driving Licence.	12
Failure to return Private Hire Driver Licence after notice given after revocation or suspension	4
Failure to notify change of name, address, telephone number, Operator, medical condition which may impact on driving within seven days of change	6
Failure to produce DVLA drivers licence within seven days on request of the Authority	4
Driver leaving a Hackney Carriage unattended, or obstructing other Hackney Carriages (#)	4
Failure to wear Driver's Badge in prominent position without exemption	4
Admitting to unnecessarily prolonging a journey	8
Making a false statement or withholding information to obtain a licence	12
Failure to attend a time appointed by an Authorised Officer	4
Admitting or being observed by an Authorised Officer of driving in a careless and inconsiderate manner in accordance with the Road Traffic Act	12
Admitting or being observed by an Authorised Officer of drivers using threatening or offensive language or behaviour	8

Officer observing a licensed driver sleeping on a Taxi Rank	4
Using a mobile phone whilst driving or stationery with engine running	4
Smoking in vehicle	4
Failure to notify the Council of convictions within a seven day period	6
Obstructing an Officer of the Council whilst exercising their duties	4
Operator offences	Points
Failure to keep accurate, current records of bookings, or failure to present records to an Authorised Officer upon request at an appointed time	6
Failure to keep records of Private Hire vehicles/Drivers operated by them	6
Making false statements or withholding information to obtain Private Hire Operator's licence	12
Operating a Private Hire Vehicle without a Private Hire Operator's licence	12
Failure to follow Councils conditions on signage	4
Knowingly allowing drivers to operate in breach of Penalty Points System	8
Operator not attending Private Hire Forum without informing the Local Authority	3

Offences marked (*) relate only to Private Hire, offences marked (#) relate only to Hackney Carriage.