

Clarification Note: Hackney Carriage Meter

A Hackney Carriage meter must always be on. Within the district the fare must be charged on the meter. It is an offence to charge more than the metered fare.

Hackney Carriages can carry passengers on journeys which end outside the district in which they are licenced. If such a hiring is accepted, it can be charged at a rate over the regulated fare provided the agreement is struck between the driver and the prospective passenger **before** the hiring commences. In practice, when the hirer states the destination, the driver will realise if the destination is outside of the district and should explain to the hirer that this will be an agreed fare, as opposed to a metered fare, but if this is not the case the driver is bound to charge the price shown on the meter. For example, you cannot charge each passenger £1.50 each if the final metered fare will be less.

If a Hackney Carriage Vehicle is used as a Private Hire Vehicle the meter **must** be used. As well as plying for hire and responding to hailing's, a Hackney Carriage can be used for pre-booked journeys. Such a booking can be made directly with the driver, or alternatively via a booking agent. Pre-booked Hackney Carriages can accept bookings for journeys which start outside the district in which the vehicle is licenced and such journeys do not have to pass through or end in the district in which the vehicle is licenced.