

## **Private Hire Vehicles**

### **TRAILERS – Specification and Conditions**

Private Hire Vehicles licensed by Denbighshire County Council are permitted to tow trailers providing the trailer meets the following specification and conditions:

Trailer Specifications:

1. A Licensing Enforcement Officer must initially approve all trailers in regard to size and type of construction.
2. When initial approval is granted and then annually when the towing vehicle undergoes its Council Test. The tester/inspector must certify that the trailer meets the equivalent standards that would normally be required to pass a Ministry of Transport Test (MOT). The garage's authentication stamp must be applied to the certificate supplied by the inspector.
3. The tow bar must meet with the type approval regulations in respect of all tow bars fitted to cars after August 1998 and be fitted by an approved agent.
4. When towing a trailer, vehicles must have an offside and nearside rear exit, not including the rear back door ie a five door car/minibus
5. The trailer must be of a design that it does not interfere in any way with the operation of any emergency exits or wheelchair access ramps.
6. Unbraked trailers shall be less than 750 KGs gross weight
7. Trailers over 750 KGs gross weight shall be braked acting on at least two road wheels
8. The maximum permissible length of the trailer shall be 7 metres including the drawbar and coupling
9. The width of the trailer shall not be greater than the towing vehicle subject to no trailer being wider than 2.3 metres
10. The maximum length for braked twin axle trailers is 5.54 metres
11. The trailer's body must be constructed of either glass-reinforced plywood/fibreglass or fully galvanised steel.

12. The trailer's full frame must be made of galvanised steel with a straight drawbar.
13. Trailers must have been manufactured by a recognised manufacturer and have not been structurally altered since manufacture.
14. A trailer may be used by more than one licensed towing vehicle but each licensed vehicle used to tow the trailer must be separately approved and the additional licence fee paid for each towing vehicle
15. An additional licence plate will be issued by the Council for each licensed Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle licensed to tow trailers and the relevant plate must be affixed to the rear of the trailer near the number plate whenever an approved trailer is towed by the licensed vehicle.

Trailer conditions:

1. The driver of the towing vehicle must hold the appropriate category on their DVLA driving licence
2. The trailer must only be used on pre-booked journeys when excess luggage is to be carried and not for general use
3. The licensed towing vehicle's insurance must cover the towing of a trailer
4. The trailer shall carry an appropriate spare wheel, adequate tools to change a wheel and correctly inflated spare tyre at all times that it is in use for hire and reward
5. The kerbside weight of the trailer when fully laden should not exceed that determined by the vehicle manufacturer as being the safe towing weight limit
6. A suitable lid or other approved means of enclosure shall be fitted to secure the contents within the trailer when in use and to keep it watertight
7. The trailer must at all times comply with all Road Traffic legislation requirements in particular those as laid down in the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) regulations 1986
8. The trailer shall not display any form of sign or advertisement apart from the licence plate issued by the Council.

9. Any defect or damage to any kind occurring on the trailer must be reported to the Council within 72 hours.