Important safety notice: Vauxhall Zafira B vehicles yet to adhere to the Vauxhall safety recall to be suspended with immediate effect

On 3 May we wrote to all registered keepers of Vauxhall Zafira B vehicles that are licensed as private hire vehicles, urging them to comply with the safety recall notices issued by Vauxhall Motor Company. The recall notices are related to unauthorised repairs to the heater fan motor in the model B version of Vauxhall Zafira models.

Of around 5,500 Vauxhall Zafira B vehicles licensed as private hire vehicles in London, over 4,000 vehicle owners have responded by visiting a Vauxhall dealership for this free, vital safety check. However, as of 16 June, approximately 1,250 vehicle owners have yet to do so, despite letters being sent from Vauxhall and Transport for London (TfL) reminding them that this important inspection needs to be carried out.

Recent reports of fire related incidents involving this model of vehicle have heightened the risks posed to passengers. This notice therefore sets out our intention to immediately suspend the vehicle licences of the all the Vauxhall Zafira B vehicles licensed for use as a private hire vehicle in London that have not yet been taken to a Vauxhall dealership for a safety check.

These vehicles must not be used for private hire purposes until these checks have been carried out and the licence suspension has been lifted.

We have written to the registered keepers of these remaining vehicles to advise them of the decision to suspend their vehicle from operating as a
private hire vehicle. Once we are satisfied the remedial works have been conducted at an authorised Vauxhall dealership, we will contact the vehicle owner to make arrangements to remove the suspension.

While we have not taken this decision lightly, it has been made with the safety of the travelling public in mind.

Vauxhall Motor Company has advised us that vehicles can still be used for domestic purposes.

Helen Chapman  
General Manager  
London Taxi and Private Hire

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