



National Fraud Initiative

Since 1996 the Audit Commission has run the National Fraud Initiative (NFI), an exercise to prevent and detect fraud by matching electronic data in organisations such as police authorities, local probation boards, and local councils. As the Audit Commission closed in 2015, the 2016-2017 NFI is being conducted by the Cabinet Office. Further information about the NFI is available on the Cabinet Office's website at www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-fraud-initiative.

As part of the 2016-2017 NFI data matching exercise, Transport for London (TfL) is required by law to release information about licensed taxi and private hire drivers to the Cabinet Office. In October 2016 we will be providing the Cabinet Office with the name, address, date of birth and National Insurance number (if available) of every licensed taxi and private hire driver.

Data matching involves comparing computer records held by one organisation against computer records held by other organisations, or different areas of the same organisation. This is usually personal information. Computerised data matching allows potentially fraudulent claims and payments to be identified. Inconsistencies indicate that further investigation is required. No assumption is made about whether inconsistencies are a result of fraud, error or other explanation until an investigation is carried out.

The use of data by the Cabinet Office in this data matching exercise is carried out with statutory authority under its powers in Part 2A of the Audit Commission Act 1998. It does not require the consent of the individuals concerned under the Data Protection Act 1998. Data matching by the Cabinet Office is subject to a Code of Practice which can be found at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-data-matching-practice-for-national-fraud-initiative.

Further information on the Cabinet Office's legal powers and the reasons why it matches particular information can be found on the Cabinet Office's website at www.gov.uk/government/publications/fair-processing-national-fraud-initiative.

Data Security

TfL considers the security of data as very important and will ensure that the data is transferred securely to the Cabinet Office.

Regards,



Helen Chapman
General Manager
London Taxi and Private Hire

29 September 2016

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