



Extension of deadline to comply with English Language Requirement for London private hire vehicle drivers

This Notice provides an update on the English Language Requirement (ELR) for London private hire vehicle (PHV) drivers, further to information provided in Notice [02/18](#).

Previously, anyone whose application for a London PHV driver's licence (including a renewal) that was received by Transport for London (TfL) on or after 14 October 2016 had until 30 April 2019 to provide evidence that they complied with the ELR whether by submitting documentary evidence of a qualification or passing the test with one of TfL's appointed providers.

The Government recently published [draft statutory guidance](#) which provides for licensing authorities to consider applicants' oral and written English language skills.

TfL is currently considering the draft statutory guidance and will work with Government to ensure consistency in standards, as appropriate. We have therefore extended the deadline London PHV drivers to comply with the ELR to **30 September 2020**.

After listening to the private hire industry we are also giving further consideration to reviewing how we test applicants' English language skills.

No further action is needed by anyone who has submitted satisfactory evidence that they comply with the ELR whether this is documentary evidence of a qualification or a certificate from one of TfL's appointed test providers. TfL will contact applicants and drivers should we need anything further. If a licensee or applicant has not yet provided evidence, they now have until 30 September 2020 to do so.

Anyone applying for a new licence, or seeking to renew their licence, on or after 1 October 2020 will need to satisfy the ELR **before** a licence is granted.

If you need further information please see: <https://tfl.gov.uk/info-for/taxis-and-private-hire/english-language-requirement>.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Graham Robinson'.

Graham Robinson
Interim General Manager London Taxi and Private Hire
Transport for London

12 March 2019

For previous Notices and additional licensing information, please visit tfl.gov.uk/tph