

Transport for London
London Taxi and Private
Hire



Legal challenge of decision to remove Congestion Charge exemption for private hire vehicles

On 4 April 2019, the High Court considered an application for permission to bring a judicial review against the decision to remove the exemption for private hire vehicles (PHVs) from the Congestion Charge. The High Court also considered an application for an injunction to prevent the removal of the exemption for PHVs from being implemented on 8 April 2019.

The Court dismissed the application for an injunction and, with the exception of the ground relating alleged breach of the public sector equality duty which was refused, granted permission for the claim for judicial review to proceed to a full hearing on 9 and 10 July 2019.

What it means for you as a PHV licensee

The Congestion Charge exemption for PHVs will be removed, as planned, from Monday 8 April 2019.

This means that PHVs travelling within the Congestion Charge zone during charging hours (Monday-Friday, 7am-6pm), will be subject to the Congestion Charge.

PHVs which are designated as wheelchair accessible and are being used to fulfil a private hire booking will retain an exemption to the Congestion Charge.

Auto Pay is the easiest and cheapest way to pay for the Congestion Charge. Vehicle owners can set up an account online and pay a reduced daily Congestion Charge of £10.50. Setting up an Auto Pay account will also protect the registered keeper of the vehicle from receiving Penalty Charge Notices as long as the vehicle is registered and the Auto Pay account is active.

Visit www.tfl.gov.uk/driving to set up Auto Pay and for more payment related information including discounts and exemptions.

Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ)

The hearing on 4 April 2019 was about the Congestion Charge exemption for PHVs – it does NOT impact on the introduction of the ULEZ.

On Monday 8 April 2019, in addition to paying the Congestion Charge, PHVs will need to meet [ULEZ standards](#) or pay a daily ULEZ charge of £12.50 for driving within the zone. You can check whether your vehicle meets the required standards using our [ULEZ vehicle checker](#).

The ULEZ will be introduced to London to help clean up our toxic air and reduce harmful NOx road transport emissions. It will operate 24 hours a day, every day

of the year, in the same area as the Congestion Charge zone.

There will be a sunset period until 26 October 2025 for PHVs that TfL has designated as wheelchair accessible. PHVs are designated as wheelchair accessible during the vehicle licensing inspection and this is noted on a vehicle's licence.

For more information on the ULEZ please see:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone>.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Robinson', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

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

5 April 2019

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