



Vehicle Licensing – October 2021 and April 2022 (Coronavirus Update 24)

This Notice provides an update on vehicle licensing arrangements for October 2021 and April 2022.

In March 2020 we temporarily closed all six taxi and private hire vehicle (PHV) inspection centres as a result of national lockdown restrictions. In light of the exceptional circumstances, we took the decision that taxi or PHV vehicle licences which were due to expire between 23 March 2020 and 30 June 2020 (inclusive) would remain licensed for a period of six months pending the full resumption of vehicle inspections and a decision by TfL on the grant of a new licence.

To help ease capacity restrictions later in 2020, caused by the temporary closure of our vehicle inspection centres, we took the decision to allow vehicles with a licence due to expire between 11 November and 31 December 2020 to remain licensed for a further six months, providing they had not previously been subject to a period of further licensing.

Further details of the vehicle licensing arrangements during the Coronavirus pandemic are set out in TPH Notices [05/20](#) and [18/20](#).

October 2021

Due to the unprecedented nature of the actions taken in 2020 to respond to the Coronavirus pandemic and the national lockdown measures, there are now a significant number of vehicles requiring a vehicle inspection in October 2021 and, conversely, in April 2022 there will be significantly fewer vehicle licences due to expire.

In light of these exceptional circumstances and to smooth out the capacity demand at our vehicle inspection centres for future years, we have taken a decision to issue 6-month licences to approximately 4,000 PHVs that are due for inspection in October 2021. The initial group of vehicles that will be issued with a 6-month licence are those previously subject to an additional period of licensing in April 2020. This action will return the vehicles back to their previous position in the licensing cycle.

This action is only being taken in relation to PHVs as TfL has statutory powers to grant short term private hire licences, but no equivalent power is available for taxi vehicles.

Affected PHVs will still be required to attend a vehicle inspection centre and to undergo and pass a full licensing inspection. Appropriate fee concessions will be applied for vehicles in this category in recognition of the double inspection they will undertake as a result of this arrangement. Vehicle owners will be notified of the concessions. The renewal inspection in April 2022 will be for 12 months.

We are taking this action to rebalance demand for vehicle inspection services across the year and to prevent costs to increase vehicle inspection capacity or deal with periods with significantly lower demand in future years, that would result in higher licence fees.

We will contact any affected PHV licensees with details of actions they need to take.

Graham Robinson

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