



## **Taxi and Private Hire Vehicle Licensing Service (December 2022)**

Further to [TPH Notice 15/22](#), we continue to experience high levels of demand for our vehicle licensing service.

### **Vehicle licence renewals**

Despite the introduction of the measures set out in [TPH Notice 15/22](#), including the provision of an additional 6,000 vehicle licensing inspection appointments during this busy period, the level of demand for inspections in December continues to exceed the number of appointments available.

Our priority is to maintain critical taxi and private hire licensing functions while ensuring the safety and welfare of our staff, licensees and the general public in London.

We recognise that a number of taxi and private hire vehicle (PHV) owners, with licences due to expire in December 2022, have had difficulties in obtaining an inspection slot in order to renew their vehicle licence, as a consequence of the limited number of appointments available. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

To ensure that existing taxis and PHVs, that are due to be relicensed in December, are able to continue to meet passenger demand over the busy Christmas and New Year period, we are implementing a number of changes with immediate effect.

## Process of relicensing

- Taxi vehicle and PHV licences which have expired or are due to expire between 1 December 2022 and 31 December 2022 (inclusive) will remain licensed for a period of four calendar months.
- These vehicles will be required to undertake an MOT inspection, that is a condition of licensing, to confirm the vehicle remains roadworthy.
- The four-month period will begin on the day the current vehicle licence is due to expire. For example, if a vehicle licence is due to expire on 15 December 2022, it will remain licensed until 15 April 2023.
- This applies to any taxi vehicle or PHV licence that expires during this period, regardless of whether an inspection has been booked or not. Any booking that has been made will be cancelled with immediate effect and the vehicle is not required to attend a vehicle inspection site.
- If a licensee has a vehicle licensing inspection appointment already booked in December and wishes to retain it, they should contact our priority renewal booking line on **0330 1755 928**.
- Given the high demand at the vehicle inspection sites, the taxi plate and PHV licence disc will not be replaced for the relevant vehicles.
- A letter confirming these arrangements will be sent to all those licensees who are affected and they should carry a copy of this letter at all times to show on-street compliance officers and police partners.
- Vehicle owners are required to ensure an MOT is undertaken for all vehicles that are subject to a period of further licensing in December and must then undertake a further MOT ahead of its next vehicle licensing inspection appointment in April 2023.

The proposed change will **not** apply to taxis and PHVs that have already been inspected in December and licensed for a 12-month period.

The proposed change will also **not** apply to any vehicle that has recently failed a licensing inspection. In these circumstances the vehicle must be presented for a

retest in order for a licence to be granted. The vehicle cannot be used as a licensed vehicle until such time as it has passed the licensing inspection.

It remains the responsibility of the vehicle owner to ensure the continued roadworthiness of the vehicle and to ensure it continues to meet all regulatory requirements at all times, including that the vehicle has a road tax, MOT and hire or reward insurance.

Licensees should also check their vehicle before every journey to ensure it is roadworthy and this complies with the relevant criteria for licensing (see [TfL Taxi and Private Hire Inspection Manual](#)) and any identified defects should be addressed to ensure continued passenger and driver safety.

We will be providing written confirmation to all affected vehicle licensees shortly.

Vehicle inspections for vehicles that are new to licensing will go ahead as normal.

Any further changes will be communicated via future [TPH Notices](#).

### **Booking your future vehicle licensing inspection online**

In the future, if you need to book a vehicle licensing inspection slot, the quickest and easiest way to do so is still via the [online booking portal](#).

The portal is accessible 24-hours a day, seven days a week. It allows you to book an appointment in the next 28 days and then to amend that booking if you need to.

Vehicle inspection licensing slots are released daily.

If you have other vehicle licensing enquiries, please email

[TPHenquiries@nslservices.co.uk](mailto:TPHenquiries@nslservices.co.uk)

Thank you for your continued patience.

Graham Robinson

**General Manager  
Taxi and Private Hire  
Transport for London**

**9 December 2022**

*For previous Notices and additional licensing information, please visit [tfl.gov.uk/tph](https://tfl.gov.uk/tph)*