

# OnRoute

July 2023

The magazine for London's taxi and private hire trades

## Five star drivers

Parliamentary  
taxi and private  
hire awards



## A fine vintage

Celebrating taxis through the ages



Singing for  
the King

Drivers under  
assessment

Wellbeing  
stressbusters

Caught on  
camera

## A guide to assistance dogs for private hire drivers

Passengers with assistance dogs use private hire services to make their way around the Capital. These are some of the dogs you might come across. Please remember not all assistance dogs have a jacket to identify them. If in doubt, you should allow the assistance dog to travel with their owner. Assistance dogs are your passengers too.

### Guide Dogs

'We wear **white** harnesses with **yellow** fluorescent stripes.'

Guide dogs are for young people and adults who are blind or partially sighted.



### Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

'We wear **burgundy** jackets.'

Hearing dogs are for adults and children with hearing impairments.



### Dog AID (Assistance in Disability)

'We wear **red** jackets.'

Dog AID dogs are for physically disabled adults.



### Canine Partners

'We wear **purple** jackets.'

Canine Partners' assistance dogs are for physically disabled adults.



### Dogs for Good

'We wear **green** jackets.'

Dogs for Good assistance dogs are for people with physical disabilities, or children with autism.



### Support Dogs

'We wear **blue** jackets.'

Assistance dogs for physically disabled adults, seizure alert dogs for people with epilepsy, and autism assistance dogs for children with autism.



### Medical Detection Dogs

'We wear **red** jackets.'

Medical detection dogs are for adults and children with complex health conditions.



Did you know it is against the law to refuse or charge a passenger more because they have an assistance dog?  
Private hire drivers and operators doing so could risk being prosecuted or losing their licence.

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Installing CCTV in taxi and private hire vehicles



# Welcome

There's something of a celebratory air about this issue of OnRoute as we congratulate all the drivers who were commended at the Parliamentary Taxi and Private Hire Awards (p19) and give a round of applause to everyone who helped make the King's Coronation and the Coronation Concert such a success.

We're also celebrating 200 years of taxis being licensed in London by looking at the fine selection of heritage vehicles lovingly restored by the London Vintage Taxi Association (p27).

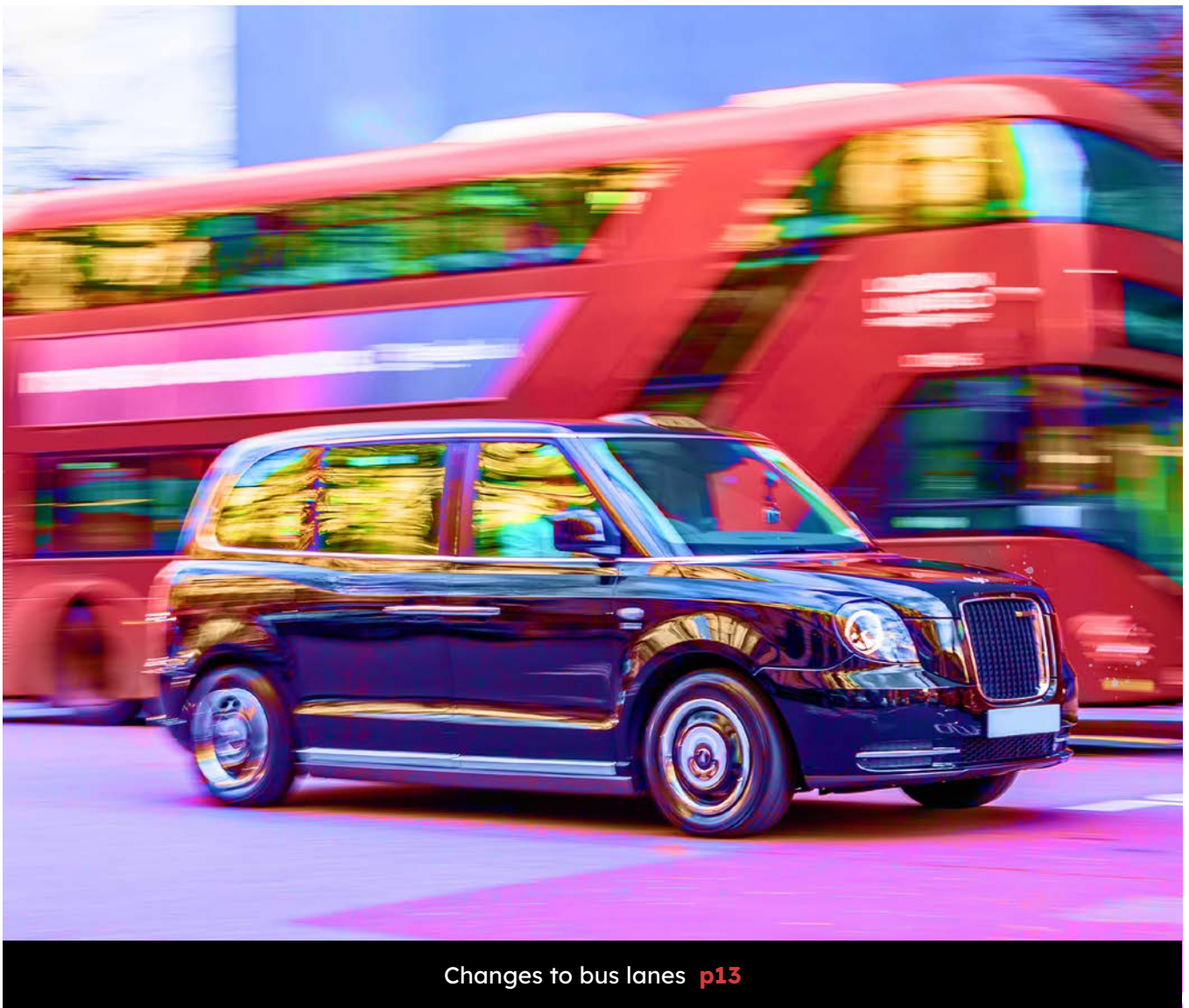
If you don't already have closed-circuit television (CCTV) in your vehicle, you can read all about its security benefits and how you go about fitting it from p36. We track the progress being made at Pier Walk driver assessment centre on p46.

Last but not least, we should all enjoy summer in the city, but if you are finding it difficult to let go of anxious thoughts, you can read tips on how to de-stress your life from p31.

If there's something you'd like us to include in a future issue, just drop us a line at [onroute@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:onroute@tfl.gov.uk)

# Driving seat

Putting you at the heart of taxi and private hire



Changes to bus lanes **p13**

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## Transforming Sloane Street

### Advice for warm weather

With the temperature going up, drivers should carry out regular vehicle checks, making sure that coolant, water and oil levels are optimal and the windscreen washer jets are working.

Tyres should be checked frequently to ensure they are correctly inflated and drivers should also be mindful of glare from the sun affecting their vision, take regular breaks, carry water and keep hydrated.

As part of the Sloane Street Futures scheme, the road will be closed in a northbound direction until late August. Once the works have been completed on the western side of Sloane Street, the closure will swap to the southbound direction until winter 2024, to complete works on the eastern side.

Regular works progress updates can be found [at Sloane Street futures.](#)



## Tribute to Eddie Townson

OnRoute would like to pay tribute to Eddie Townson of Carlton Cars and Chair of the Private Hire Board. Eddie, who passed away at the end of April, was a constant presence in the private hire industry and very well respected.

Helen Chapman, Director of Licensing and Regulation, said: 'All of us at TfL were saddened to hear of the passing of Eddie Townson. Eddie has been a senior trade representative for the private hire industry from the beginning. Being among the very first drivers to gain a private hire vehicle driver licence, Eddie had a vast pool of knowledge that he shared with us all, helping to shape regulation and licensing processes to protect passenger safety, which remain in place today. Eddie was passionate about people and was always looking out for the interests of others, be they customers or drivers. Having had the pleasure of working alongside him for a long time, he will be dearly missed by all of us at TfL. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.'

## In memoriam

A memorial to the London transport workers who tragically lost their lives to coronavirus has been unveiled.

Since March 2020, more than 100 transport workers have passed away owing to coronavirus. These workers across London's Tube, rail, buses, taxi and private hire services helped to keep London moving throughout the pandemic. The new permanent memorial on Braham Street in Aldgate, commemorates the critical role they played in London's fight against the global pandemic.

The memorial contains a plaque paying tribute to London's transport workers alongside benches and new plants. This includes a Foxglove tree planted beside the memorial, to create a space for quiet reflection and remembrance for friends, families and colleagues of those who passed away.







It's time for Wimbledon tennis

## Anyone for tennis?

This year's Wimbledon Tennis Championship is running until Sunday 16 July and will have a maximum spectator capacity of 42,000 people each day.

Taxi and private hire services play an important role in helping visitors access the championship and so should note where the designated drop-off and pick-up points, and the planned road closures are located.

### **Taxi arrangements**

#### **Fixed-fare, shared-taxi trips**

There will be fixed-fare, shared-taxi trips between the All England Lawn Tennis Club grounds and both Wimbledon and Southfields stations. These are as follows:

- £2.50 for adults
- £1.25 for children between two and 10 years old
- Children under two travel free

**Taxi drop-off arrangements**

Taxis coming from the direction of Southfields should drop their passengers on Wimbledon Park Road, close to the junction with Victoria Drive. Taxis coming from the direction of Wimbledon should drop their passengers in Marryat Road, close to the junction with Somerset Road. There will be an accessible drop-off point in Somerset Road, close to Gate 13.

**Taxi rank arrangements****Southfields Station**

A temporary taxi rank on Augustus Road, near Southfields station, will operate, including fixed-fare, shared-taxi trips to the tennis club. The taxi rank in Wimbledon Park Road, outside Southfields Station, will not be in operation during the championship.

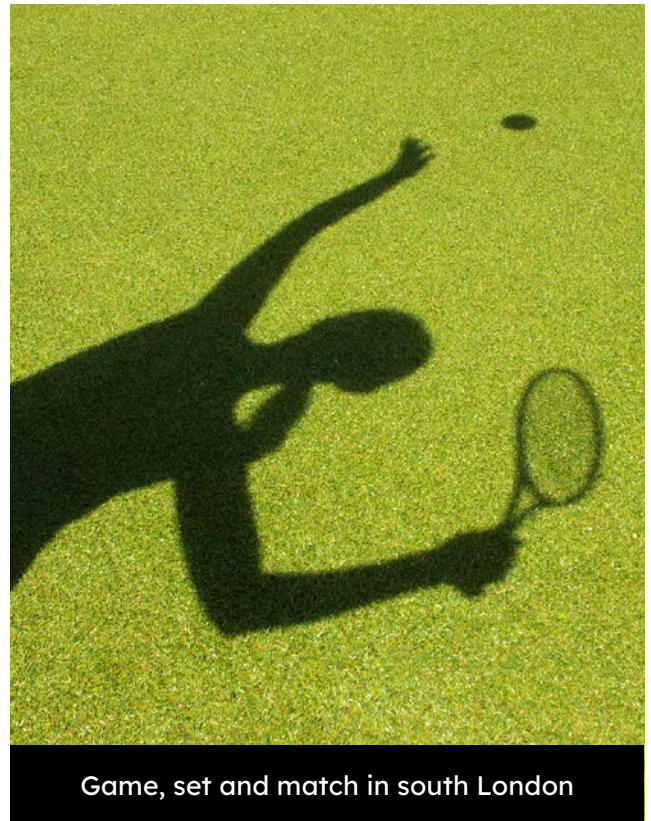
**Wimbledon Station**

The taxi rank at Wimbledon station will operate as normal, but fixed-fare, shared-taxi trips to the tennis club will also be in operation from this rank.

**Church Road – The All England Lawn Tennis Club**

A temporary taxi rank will operate off Church Road (adjacent to Gate 4) where fixed-fare, shared-taxi trips will be available for passengers going to Southfields or Wimbledon stations. The taxi rank will also operate normally for passengers wishing to travel to central London and other destinations with fixed-fare, shared-taxi trips to certain locations. The head of the taxi rank will be on the golf course estate road, adjacent to Gate 4, and will be fully accessible to wheelchair users.

There will be a feeder rank for 16 taxis on Church Road, a short distance south of Gate 5. Taxis will be directed into the



Game, set and match in south London

golf course, where taxi marshals will be in attendance to assist passengers. Taxis will follow the internal road and exit on to Church Road via car park Gate 8. A checkpoint will be in place to prevent taxis joining the rank when it is full. Taxis that have been allowed past the check point to access the taxi rank are asked not to stop and pick up passengers before reaching the rank. Taxis should return to the rear of the rank via Parkside and Church Road.

**Somerset Road – The All England Lawn Tennis Club**

There will be a temporary taxi rank for eight taxis in Somerset Road, near to Gate 13, where fixed-fare, shared-taxi trips will be available for passengers going to Southfields or Wimbledon stations. The taxi rank will also operate normally for passengers wishing to travel



There will be a temporary rank at Southfields station

to central London and other destinations with fixed-fare, shared-taxi trips to certain locations. Taxis will only be able to access this rank via the Somerset Road/ Burghley Road junction. A checkpoint will be in place to prevent taxis joining the rank when it is full. The taxi rank will be fully accessible to wheelchair users and taxi marshals will be in attendance to assist passengers. Taxis allowed past the checkpoint to access the taxi rank are asked not to stop and pick up passengers before reaching the rank.

#### **Pre-booked taxis**

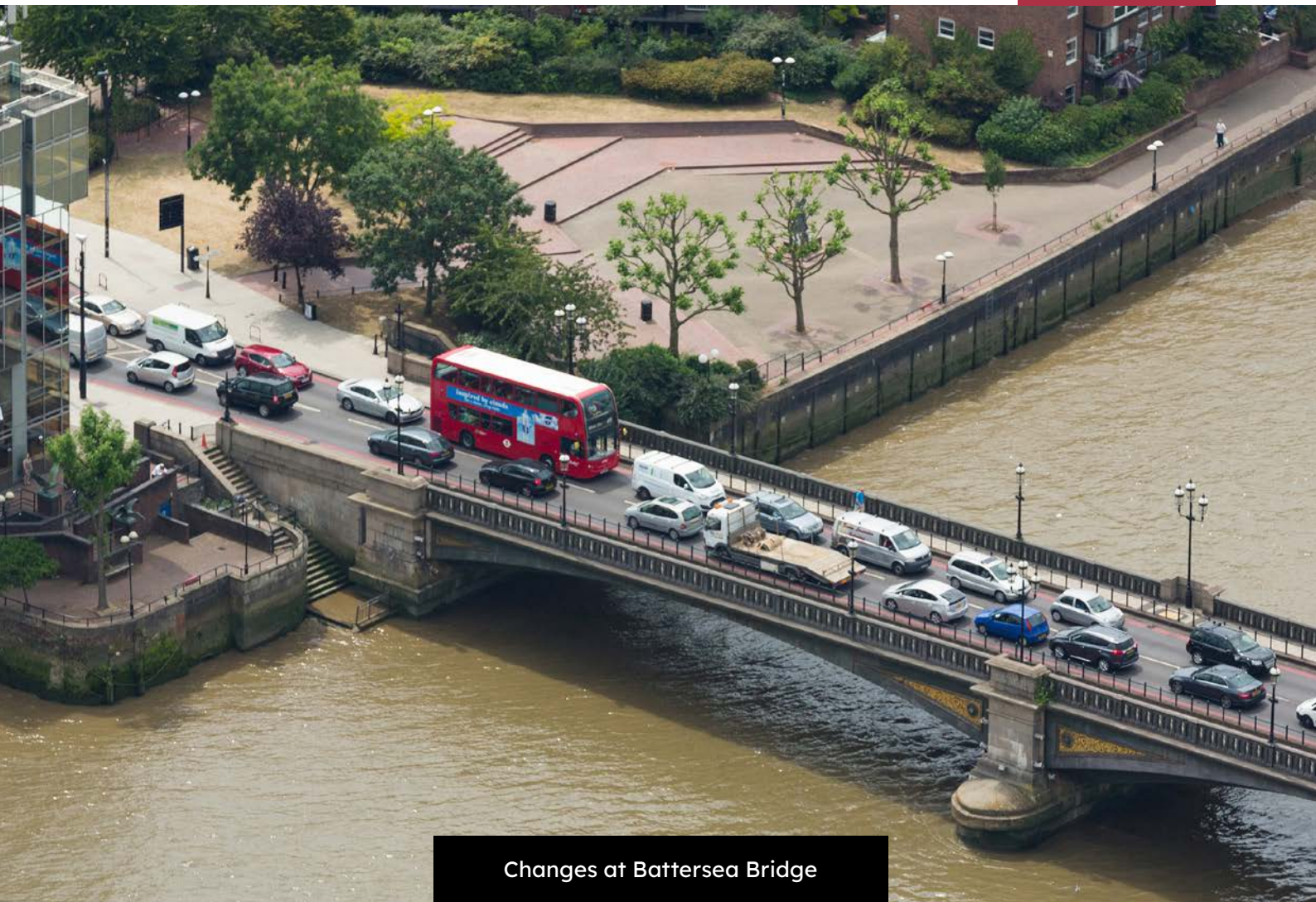
Pre-booked taxis should collect their passengers in Marryat Road. Church Road will be closed to all vehicles, except emergency vehicles, between Gates 1 and 5. This will be strictly enforced with barriers preventing access.

#### **Private hire arrangements**

Space for private hire vehicles to drop off or pick up passengers that have pre-booked will be available at:

- Wimbledon Park Road – on the east side of the road, just north of the junction with Victoria Drive
- Marryat Road – on the west side of the road, just north of the junction with Burghley Road

Parking and waiting at these locations is not permitted and private hire drivers must not attend until their passengers are ready for collection. Stopping on Church Road, Somerset Road or around the ground is not permitted and parking controls will be strictly enforced. Private hire vehicles must not stop on the designated taxi ranks.



Changes at Battersea Bridge

## View from the bridge

In November 2021, TfL made changes at Battersea Bridge to improve the safety of cyclists and pedestrians. After a further consultation carried out last year, TfL has decided to install dedicated cycle signals and a section of segregated cycle track at the northern end of the bridge, and ban the left turn into Beaufort Street for a small number of vehicles. There will also be a new section of westbound bus lane from Royal Hospital Road to the bus stop at Beaufort Street.

At the southern end of the bridge, changes include a new pedestrian crossing at the junction of Battersea Bridge Road and Battersea Church Road, reconfigured crossing points at the junction of Battersea Bridge Road with the Prince of Wales Drive, and banning the right turn from Battersea Bridge Road into Parkgate Road and the left turn into the B305 to improve safety for people walking and cycling.

Work on these safety improvements is scheduled to begin this winter.



## Change to use of bus lanes

Although private hire vehicles are not allowed to use [bus lanes](#), taxis can if the signage allows. Now ambulances, police and fire vehicles have also been given access to bus lanes on London's main arterial roads while they are on duty, even when not dealing with an emergency. This follows a successful trial with Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation Trust, which saw fewer missed appointments and no negative impact on bus journey times.

There are more than 8,000 emergency service fleet vehicles using London's roads, meaning the Metropolitan Police Service, the London Fire Brigade and the London Ambulance Service will benefit from less congestion and faster journey times, helping to provide a better service to all Londoners. Outpatients who rely on patient transport at the capital's hospitals will now be less likely to miss appointments with knock-on savings for the trusts themselves and improved health outcomes for many patients.



## Taxi rank news

### London Bridge Station

There will be a road closure in place at the station every weekday between midnight and 05:00 until Friday 8 September, while essential bridge works take place. This means the Guildable Manor Street taxi rank will be suspended between these hours and drivers should use the St Thomas Street rank opposite the Shard instead.

### Barking station

For the next two years, the second portion of Wakering Road taxi rank by Barking station will be suspended while building works take place. A temporary taxi rank will be available in Salisbury Avenue.

### Piccadilly closure

While a crane is operating in the area, Piccadilly will be shut between Old Park Lane and Down Street between 08:00 and 17:00 on:

- Sunday 2 July
- Sunday 16 July
- Sunday 23 July
- Sunday 30 July

## TPH licensing in numbers

**18,087**

Taxi drivers

**15,127**

Taxi vehicle licences

**105,561**

Private hire driver licences

**89,197**

Private hire vehicle licences

**1,615**

Private hire operators

## Taxi-dedicated rapid charge point bays

Private hire drivers are reminded that private hire vehicles must never park in or use taxi-dedicated rapid charge point bays. If they do so the driver may be subject to a penalty charge notice and potentially licensing action.

If you see a vehicle parked in, or using, a taxi-dedicated rapid charge point bay when it shouldn't be, email [TPHintel@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:TPHintel@tfl.gov.uk) providing images and the time, date and location.



Flying their way to celebrate D Day

## Chocks away!

In June this year, two World War II veterans had a dream come true. Ken Benbow, who served with the Royal Navy on HMS Crane, and Stuart Taylor, who served with the RAF as a Dakota pilot, were flown from Warton Aerodrome to Caen in Normandy on the afternoon of the 79th anniversary of D Day.

When it landed at Caen Carpiquet Airport, the flight was met on the tarmac by Brian Heffernan and Simon Hawes from the Taxi Charity for Military Veterans, who drove them to the British Normandy Memorial with the help of a team of outriders. At the memorial, Ken and Stuart shared a few words with Ben Wallace, the British Minister of Defence, who also happens to be Ken's MP.

Brian Heffernan, Chairman of the charity said: 'When we first learned of the ambitious plans to fly Ken and Stuart to Normandy on D Day, we immediately offered our help. The Taxi Charity has been supporting veterans for 75 years, more usually taking veterans to Normandy for the commemorations from their homes in our cabs. To see the flight coming into Carpiquet Airport was an emotional moment. Ken and Ben were justly treated like VIPs and we were thrilled to be part of this project to allow the veterans to participate in this important event.'

[The Taxi Charity](#) would love to hear from you if you wish to volunteer or make a donation to help with its work.

## Messing about down on the river



On Monday 12 June, the [London Taxi Drivers Charity for Children \(LTCFC\)](#) organised a special day for thirty disadvantaged children from a school in Docklands. The destination for their fun-filled adventure was the Docklands Sailing and Watersports Centre, where they learned to kayak and paddleboard with the help of experienced instructors.


The aim of the day was to empower the children by boosting their self-esteem, helping them to become more resilient. The event was so successful, LTCFC will run similar events for other children in the future, helping them overcome challenges and discover their potential through fun and engaging activities.

## Off to see Mickey

This year's Magical Taxi Tour takes place on 29 September. This amazing event, taking more than 200 children suffering from a range of chronic debilitating illnesses on a three-day trip of a lifetime to Disneyland Paris, is a labour of love by all those who organise and take part in it, either as volunteer support workers or drivers.

The convoy of taxis is joined by British and French police, ambulance services and breakdown cover. Everyone gives up their time for free but there are obviously costs involved for fuel, accommodation and entry tickets to Disneyland Paris.

This year, TPH is going all out to support the Magical Taxi Tour and is hoping to raise £1,500 in the next few months to sponsor a taxi.

If you would like to donate to this wonderful charity or offer your services and your taxi, you can contact the [Magical Taxi Tour](#) direct. 





# In the headlights



The cabbies' choir at Windsor Castle

To celebrate the King's Coronation in May, the BBC arranged for a very special choir to be given the chance to sing for the King. Taxi driver Dale Forward had the opportunity of a lifetime when she joined the hastily formed cabbies' choir. Here, she describes her unique experience.



'We literally only formed our cabbies' choir a few weeks before the Coronation by responding to a WhatsApp post. The eight members all applied separately by sending in a video where we sang Happy Birthday individually. The whole process of our choir coming together with various other groups was to be filmed by the [BBC](#) for a documentary on iPlayer, Sing for the King: the search for the coronation choir.

'We met up at an NCP car park in St. Cross Street and to our surprise, Amanda Holden turned up! She was lovely and gave us good tips before telling us we had passed the audition and would be singing for His Majesty King Charles III. About a week later, we had another rehearsal in the car park at the cabbie café at Great Suffolk Street and Amanda turned up again. We were given the words to Brighter Days by Emeli Sandé, which we would be singing at the concert. We sang this to Amanda with lots of help from our voice coach Tori. We also had special help from a British Sign Language expert to learn the signing parts to accompany the song.

'We met our choir master, Gareth Malone, at our rehearsal at Windsor Castle. He took us into a studio to record various vocal parts, which would also be played at the concert. That went really well and only took us one take. It was at this rehearsal we learnt we were also going to sing Never Forget with Take That. Mind you, it was only three words! We were also taught when to dance and clap when the whole audience joined in.

'Then we got another surprise when Prince Edward, Duke of Edinburgh and his wife Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh, turned up and we sang for them.



The London cabbies' choir: Dale Forwood, Grant Davis, Gary Broughton, Graham Brinkhurst, David Hemsted, Hung Kee Hor, Mark Nolan, Tony Walker

'On the day of the concert, we got to watch some of the other performers rehearse and got dressed up in our smart outfits, wearing our taxi badges with pride. When we finally got on stage we were at the front and our performance went so well, it felt and sounded brilliant!

'Apart from meeting all these famous people it was so nice mixing with my fellow cab drivers and getting to know them better. They really are a lovely mixture of the most talented, funny and caring people I've met, and I feel like they're my new family.

'This was a very special experience for us all and we've decided we're going to keep this choir going.'

You can watch Sing for the King: the search for the coronation choir on iPlayer and the Coronation Choir's performance is on [YouTube](#). Follow London cabbies' choir on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook



Taxi driver Mohamed Ewasha receives his award

# Call of duty: above and beyond

In June, taxi and private hire drivers gathered on the terrace at the House of Commons to attend the Parliamentary Taxi and Private Hire Awards.

The awards were hosted by Daniel Zeichner MP, who first launched them back in 2019, and were sponsored by mobility app FREENOW. They celebrate all those in the taxi and private hire community who have gone above and beyond in helping their local communities.

Addressing everyone present, Mr Zeichner said: 'So many people don't know how often you go that extra mile to do more. You are the unsung heroes of the transport trade. I would like to congratulate all of this year's winners and nominees, and thank them for their contribution, not only to where they live and work, but also to the standing and reputation of the industry as a whole.' ➔

# The winners

## Award for stand-out achievement

### Mohamed Ewasha

When he was 70 years old, taxi driver Mohamed took a passenger to Greenwich to take part in the London Marathon. The passenger inspired Mohamed, who has been a taxi driver for 41 years, to take up running and now, at the age of 74, Mohamed has been commended for his fundraising efforts, having run the London Marathon and various half-marathons to raise funds for different charities, including Independent Age.

## Charity Award

### Matt Westfall

We featured cabbie Matt last year when he won the International Association of Transport Regulators’ Driver of the Year Award for taking essentials to people living in makeshift camps on the Ukrainian border with Poland. He recruited the drivers of six other cabs, one car and a van to join him, raising more than £11,000 to fund their efforts.



Matt Westfall receiving the Charity Award



Karen Ismail is a keen environmentalist

Now he’s won yet another award for his amazing work. Talking after the ceremony, he explained his link with humanitarian efforts in Ukraine is ongoing. ‘I was approached in the UK by a Ukrainian nurse who asked if I could help raise money to purchase an ambulance. If anyone approaches me, I will always try to help and we managed to raise enough money to buy an ambulance in Poland, which is now working on the front line in Ukraine.’

## Climate and Sustainability Award

### Karen Ismail

A keen environmentalist, Karen purchased an electric taxi and continues to raise awareness for the need for battery-powered taxis and private hire vehicles in London. He is encouraging his local borough of Barnet to install more electric vehicle charge points in the area.

**Community Award**

**Muhammad Delwar Uddin**

Private hire driver Muhammad applied to be an NHS volunteer at the start of the pandemic, picking up and delivering prescriptions from the local pharmacy to vulnerable patients who could not make the journey themselves. Three years on, he continues this work. He has made hundreds of trips during this time and plans to continue supporting the NHS.

**Hero Award**

**Simon Davies**

Taxi driver Simon was unable to attend the awards, but was recognised for having made several trips by car to Ukraine in the past 12 months in order to deliver aid to those in need, as well as engaging in a great deal of fundraising. OR



Private hire driver Muhammad Delwar Uddin

**More from FREENOW**

[FREENOW](#) is a mobility app where users can access all types of mobility services including taxi and private hire. It has been the sponsor for the awards for four years. Mariusz Zabrocki,

FREENOW's UK General Manager said: 'It is an honour to be involved in these awards for the fourth year running and we would like to extend our congratulations to all those involved.'



# Green zone

Everything you need to know about making London a clean, green, carbon-free city



A massive electric battery plant is planned for England **p26**

- p23** Zest charging bays
- p25** Curbing range anxiety
- p26** Solar charging car parks



# Full of Zest

TfL has awarded Zest a contract to roll out 39 new electric vehicle charging bays across 24 locations in south and southwest London by the end of 2024. The bays will be installed across Bromley, Greenwich, Hammersmith and Fulham, Kingston, Lambeth, Lewisham, Merton, Richmond, Sutton and Wandsworth.

[Zest](#) will provide and operate the charge points for 15 years, with no financial costs or operational overheads for TfL. Under the terms of the contract, TfL will receive a share of charging revenues and a ground rent for the use of its land. These new EV charging bays further expand London's charging network.

# Charging forward

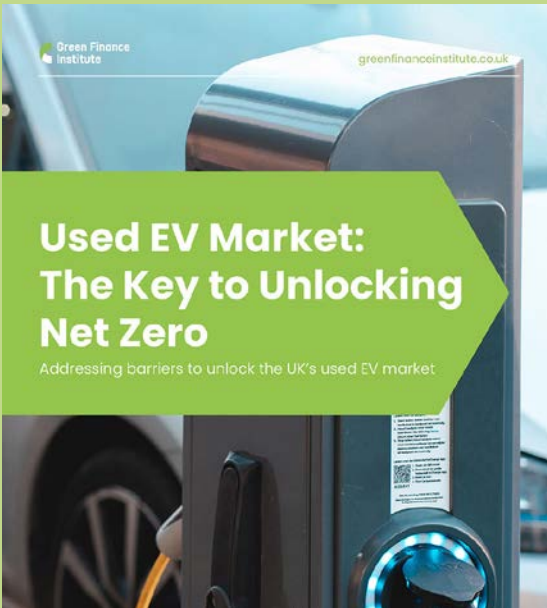
- London leads the UK in the take up of electric vehicles, with 103,000 plug-in electric cars and vans already registered in the capital
  - With close to 13,000 charge points, London currently has 31 per cent of all electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the UK
  - London is on track to meet the target of 40,000-60,000 charging points by 2030
  - Around 880 of the charging points to be found across the capital are rapid or ultra-rapid charging points delivering a full charge within 30 minutes
- The number of rapid-charging points across the capital also includes London's 26 rapid-charging hubs that work much like petrol stations for electric cars

In recent months, two rapid-electric charger hubs have opened in London - MFG Collier Row, which has eight 150kW ultra-rapid chargers, capable of adding approximately 300 miles of range in 30 minutes, and Euro Garages' hub at Heathrow North.

MFG Collier Row rapid-charger hub







## Good as new

A new report, from the [Green Finance Institute](#), has found that the UK's electric transition could be fast-tracked by more than a decade if steps are taken to improve confidence.

The Used EV Market: The Key to Unlocking Net Zero report, found that although 61 per cent of motorists would purchase an electric vehicle, more than a quarter of drivers said they would be hesitant to buy a second-hand electric car unless concerns around batteries, cost and the charging network were addressed.

The report concluded that if drivers could be reassured about these concerns, then a potential 17 million drivers in the UK would consider switching to an electric vehicle.

## No need now for range anxiety

New figures from the [AA](#) show electric vehicle range anxiety could soon be a thing of the past as the proportion of electric vehicles running out of charge has fallen by more than 70 per cent.

Four years ago, the number of 'out of charge' electric vehicle breakdowns logged by the AA was running at eight per cent and this year that figure has fallen to slightly more than two per cent.

The main reasons for this dramatic drop are the increased ranges of most electric vehicles, the increased provision and better reliability of chargers and drivers being better informed on where, when and how to charge.





## Batteries built in Britain

The Tata Group (owners of Jaguar Land Rover) is set to base a new multi-billion-pound electric vehicle battery plant here in the UK.

According to the BBC, some in the car industry have described the plant as ‘the most significant investment in UK automotive since Nissan came to Britain in the 1980s’. The factory, which would be located at Bridgewater in Somerset, just off the M5, could create 9,000 jobs.

## Park and charge?

One possible solution to boost the number of electric charging hubs across the country is to install solar car parks. These parks or car ports have arrays of solar panels fitted on canopies above the parking spaces. The canopies not only produce electricity, which can be used for electric vehicle charging, but also protect cars from rain, snow or sun.

If located close to facilities such as hospitals, shopping centres, leisure centres or offices, they are ideal for electric charging, as the vehicles tend to be parked for two hours or more, allowing sufficient charging time.

## The long ranger

In a linked story, Toyota has said it is ready to move from the research stage to production of a next-generation electric vehicle battery capable of delivering almost 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of range.

The company aims to bring the battery to the market by 2027, claiming it will have a charge time of just 10 minutes.

# Well aged



Get a glimpse of a bygone era with the London  
Vintage Taxi Association

London and taxis go together, well, like a horse and carriage, and have an equally long historical partnership. The first hackney carriage or cab to become fully licensed in London was way back on 23 April 1823. Two hundred years later and the black cab is a beloved London icon, and to celebrate and preserve that history, the London Vintage Taxi Association ([LVTA](#)) was formed in 1978.

It is the only club in the world dedicated to preserving historic London taxis and private hire vehicles. There are currently 362 members worldwide with the membership divided into three sections: UK/Europe for anyone living in the UK, mainland Europe and the Mediterranean islands; North American for residents of the USA and Canada; and the rest of the world section for anyone else, with members in far-flung places such as Japan and New Zealand.

You don't have to own a vintage taxi to become a member, you just need to be an enthusiast and about five per cent of members are, or were, taxi drivers. While some restore old taxis, others exhibit them at various classic vehicle shows throughout the year, while others hire their cabs out for weddings and for special events.

Just how many vehicles members own is a tricky question, as the club's Vehicle Registrar Carrie Aucott explains: 'We keep detailed records of cabs, even those that no longer exist. At the last count, we had 1,180 vehicles listed and of those, 361 belong to current members, but this figure changes as members join and others lapse.'

'There are also a few hundred cabs that we know exist, or did until recently, but we have no easy way of counting them accurately. Cabs are scrapped almost →



A London Vintage Taxi Association meet



A 1912 Unic cab on location while filming Downton Abbey

daily, and the only way we can check is to look at every cab individually. For instance, we have a 1910 Panhard listed, but can't guarantee it still exists as the last confirmed sighting of it was in 2012.'

The two oldest taxis currently owned by members and known to still exist are a Unic and a Renault, both from 1912.

## Cabs on show

In fact, you may well have seen the Unic without even realising it as the cab, along with many of the others listed, is often hired out for film and TV work. It has been seen in both Downton Abbey and Mr Selfridge. Since 2017, members' taxis have also appeared in Mary Poppins Returns, Nanny McPhee, Laurel and Hardy and Call the Midwife. One member even owns

PEG 1, the taxi driven by Charles Hawtrey in the 1963 film Carry on Cabby.

Doug Cheshire has been the chairman of the LTVA since 2016 and earns money by renting out his two 1930s taxis, Thomas and Bertie, for filming and weddings. Both have been lovingly restored and he comments: 'When I'm out driving with the hood down, people pull up alongside me at lights and shout "I bet mine won't be around at that age!".' He and his fellow members also do a lot of fundraising for charity, including offering their time and taxis for free every Remembrance Sunday, when they transport veterans from Waterloo Station to the Cenotaph. Doug explains: 'People always stop to look at vintage taxis, so it's a good way to grab a donation for the veterans.'



James Selby-Weatherley joined the club in 2009 after being asked to display his 1959 Beardmore MK7 taxi, 898HYP, at the British Motor Show at the NEC in Birmingham. James says: 'My wife Martina and I had a fantastic time and we have never looked back. We took over running the club shop/regalia shortly afterwards, although most sales are now online, and over the years I have been the custodian of the club's parts/spares and now the LVTA Events Coordinator.'

Along with the Beardmore James also owns a 1951 Austin FL1 hire car, YVL959; a 1957 Austin FX3 taxi, ULT444 (repatriated from Belgium via France); and a 1982 Austin FX4 taxi, MYO455X, which during its working life saw lots of famous people in the back, including Princess Diana and Michael Caine.

## Becoming a LVTA member

Annual subscriptions, renewable from the first of the month in which the member joins, are:

UK and Europe: £29.00, plus one-off £5.00 joining fee

Rest of the World: £36.00, plus one-off £5.00 joining fee

North American Section: £36.00, plus one-off £5.00 joining fee

How to Join - You can join online by selecting the section appropriate to where you live, then following the links to the automated membership system.

The fields include a vehicle registration form, but you don't have to own a vintage taxi to be eligible for membership.



### LVTA events 2023

The club organises around 20 regular events up and down the country each year with the following arranged for 2023:

#### August

13 August: Biggar Albion Foundation Ltd Show Field, Edinburgh Road. ML12 6QX

#### September

3 September: Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway, Kent

8 - 10 September: Goodwood Revival, Chichester, West Sussex

23 - 24 September: East Anglian Transport Museum, Carlton Colville, Lowestoft, Suffolk

#### October

15 October: London Vintage Taxi Association Annual General Meeting at the British Motor Museum, Gaydon, Warwickshire

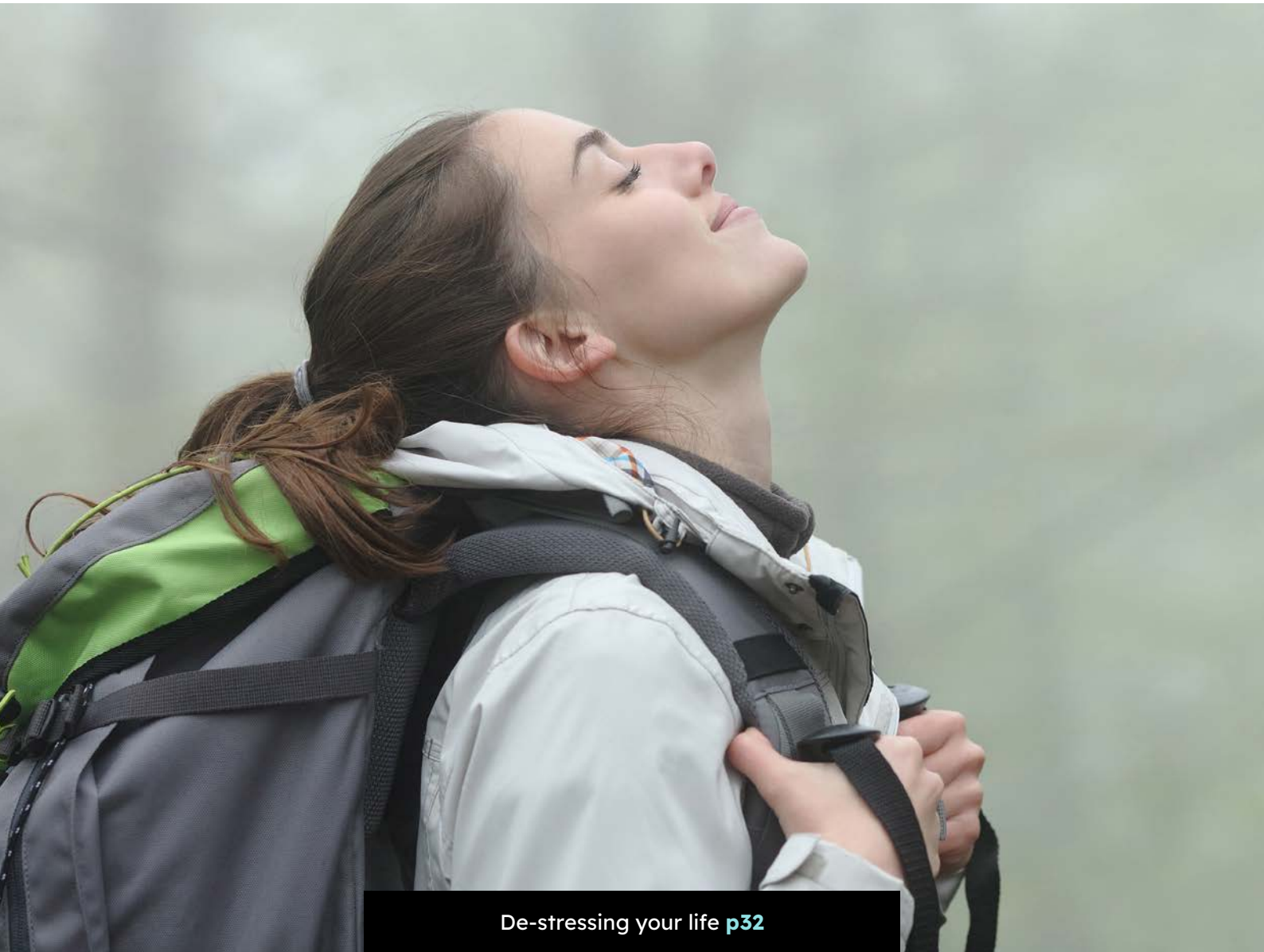
22 September: Transportfest, The Bus Museum, Brooklands, Surrey

#### November

12 November: Poppy Cabs, London

# Wellbeing

Fit to face the future



De-stressing your life **p32**

**p32** Stressbusters

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## Stressbusters

The cost of living crisis, coming hard on the heels of the coronavirus pandemic, is making many people's stress levels soar. If your anxiety is getting out of hand, it's time to take action before the problem gets worse.

Stress not only affects our mental but also our physical health, so it is important to find ways to minimise stress. Here are some tried and tested methods of bringing your anxiety levels down – and most of them won't cost you a penny.

### **Every breath you take**

Breathing exercises are a great way to calm your mind and your heartbeat if anxiety is causing it to race. Stress often causes people's breath to become fast and shallow, which restricts airflow in the body. To alleviate this, you need to slow

your breathing down and fill your lungs more deeply. This exercise is so simple, you can even do it while parked up in your vehicle.

To start off, slow your breathing down. You can do this by breathing in through your nose down into your stomach for a count of five. Now hold your breath for a further count of five before letting it flow out gently for another count of five. Keep doing this for four breath cycles and then see how much your anxiety levels have fallen away.





You can make this breathing exercise even more effective by lengthening the time you exhale – sometimes known as the 4-7-8 technique. Inhale through your nose for a count of four and then hold your breath for a count of seven, before exhaling for a count of eight. Repeat for at least four breath cycles.

An added bonus to these deep breath exercises is if done when you go to bed, they promote better sleep patterns.

### Get a move on

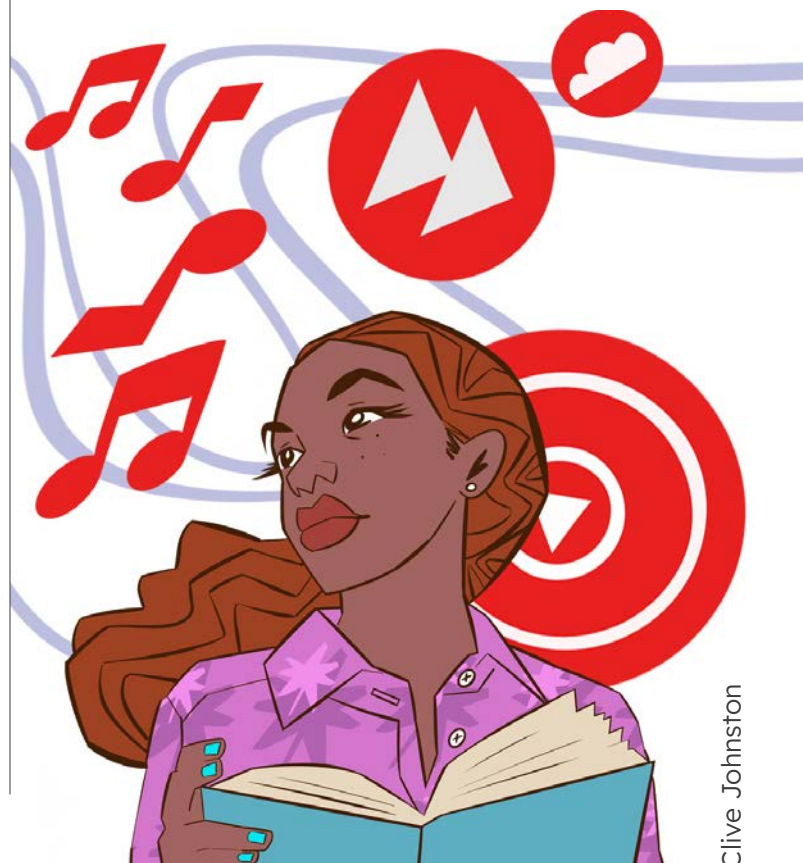
We all know sitting in a car for long hours isn't good for our physical health, but it's not good for us mentally either. That's because doing any form of exercise releases endorphins in our brain and

these 'feel-good' chemicals help us deal with tension, and boost our powers of concentration and also our energy levels.

You don't need to join an expensive gym either. You could just go for a walk in a park while on your break, do some gentle stretching exercises, or have a game of kick-around with family or friends. Other great forms of exercise include swimming, martial arts, bike riding, tennis and badminton.

### Me time

We all have busy lives, but if you can, build some time into your day where you can concentrate on yourself. That could be anything from half an hour to read a book or the paper, listen to some of your favourite music, have a laugh at your favourite TV comedy show, meditate or even play with your pet if you have one. This can give you a little breathing space away from your worries.



### Sleep easy

Lying in bed wide awake while your mind keeps going over and over worries means you will be less able to deal with anything the following day throws up. Driver fatigue is also responsible for 16 per cent of UK road accidents a year as sleepiness reduces your reaction time.

If you can't stop worrying before bedtime, have a notebook by your bed to jot down the things that are keeping you up at night. Then shut the book up, symbolically shutting away your bad thoughts and worries.

Restrict the amount of caffeinated or fizzy drinks you are having during the day as they can seriously disrupt your sleep patterns. The same goes for alcohol, so if you are going for a drink in the evening, make sure you leave at least an hour before you then go to bed to allow your body to process it.

### Money worries

If you are embarrassed to discuss things such as money worries, don't be. Many



people are now finding themselves with higher energy bills, mortgages and other overheads they are struggling to pay, and there are plenty of organisations out there that can offer advice.

[MoneySavingExpert.com](https://www.moneysavingexpert.com) is the UK's biggest consumer website, with more than 16 million users a month, and offers advice on how to save money.

[Business Debtline](https://www.businessdebtline.com) is the UK's only free debt advice service for small business owners and the self-employed. You can also get free advice on financial worries from the [National Debtline](https://www.nationaldebtline.com).

### It's good to talk

Talking can really help you to get worries off your mind – and your friends, family or even a specialised helpline can enable you to see things in perspective, rather than blowing them out of proportion. Take time to connect with other people and maybe you'll find by asking them about how they are feeling or what is worrying them, it will help you get a handle on what's worrying you. There is a list of support organisations, including those with free chatlines, at the end of this article.

If stress is affecting your mental and physical health, many of the services below offer chat lines where you can talk your worries through with someone.

## Mental health and wellbeing support services

### SANE

[info@sane.org.uk](mailto:info@sane.org.uk)

0300 304 7000

Open every day from 16:30 to 22:30

### Rethink Mental Illness

[advice@rethink.org](mailto:advice@rethink.org)

0300 5000 927

### Mind

[info@mind.org.uk](mailto:info@mind.org.uk)

0300 123 3393

Open 09:00 to 18:00 Monday to Friday  
except Bank Holidays (calls charged at  
local rate)

### CALM

0808 802 58 58

Open 17:00 to midnight, 365 days a year

### Stress Management Society (SMS)

0203 142 8650

### BBC Headroom

### RoSPA driver safety

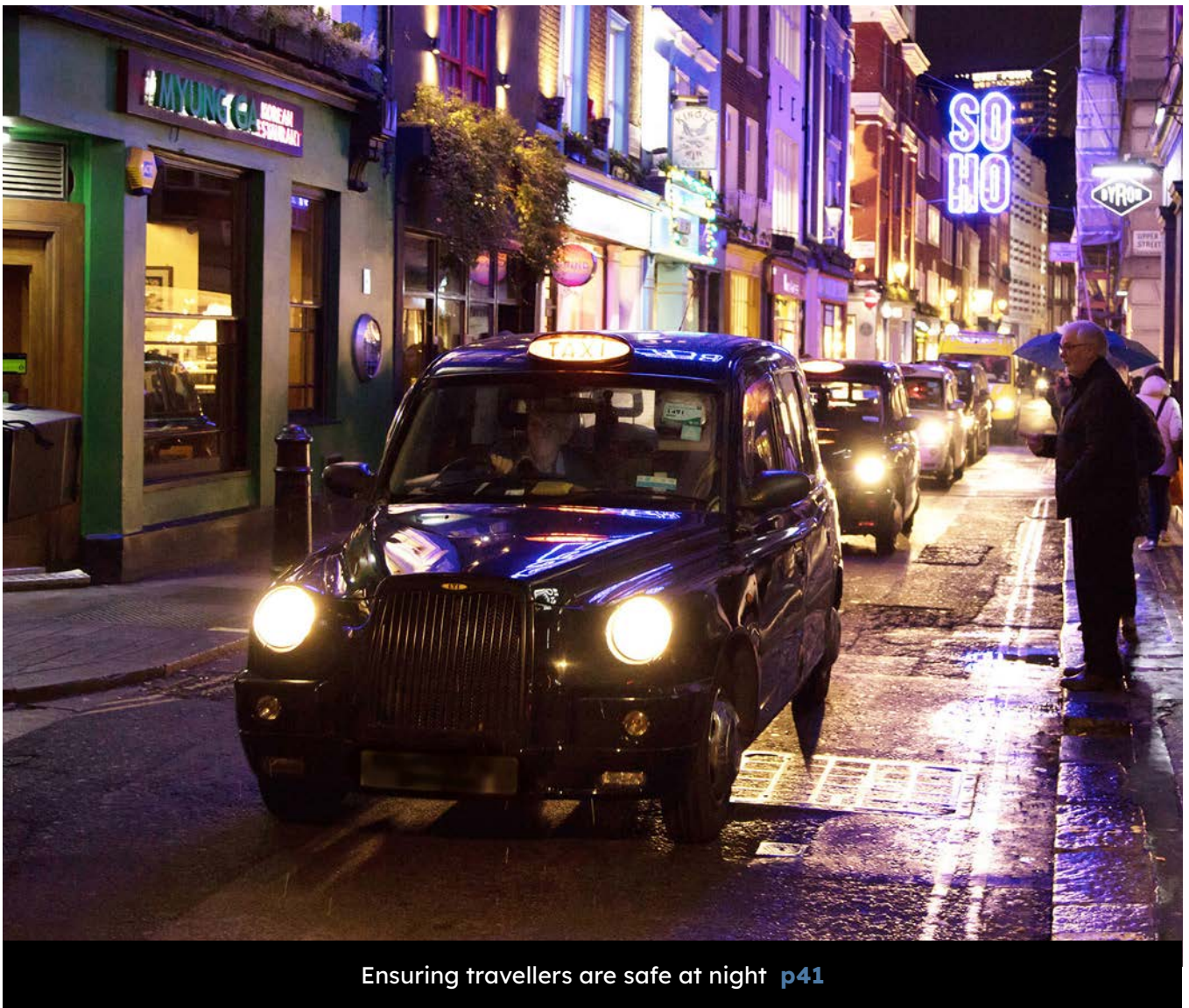
Information on driving fatigue and the  
importance of not driving when tired

### UK Active

020 8158 9700

# Security

Safety information for both drivers and passengers




Ensuring travellers are safe at night **p41**

**p37** In-vehicle CCTV

**p39** CCTV suppliers/installers

**p42** Emergency bandage kits



CCTV can offer assurance to drivers

## Caught on camera

Having a CCTV system fitted to your taxi or private hire vehicle can make you and your passengers safer

There are many positive security benefits from having CCTV in your vehicle:

- Deterring and preventing crime
- Reducing the fear of crime
- Helping the police to investigate crimes
- Aiding insurance companies when they investigate motor accidents
- Assisting in any disputes between drivers and their passengers

Inspector Glenn Smith of the Taxi and Private Hire Policing Team explains: 'CCTV has a proven track record and is a modern part of crime prevention and criminal investigations. The presence of CCTV cameras acts as a powerful

deterrent against criminal activities, as individuals are aware of being monitored and recorded. It also has the same impact of passengers feeling safer.

'CCTV improves public safety by creating a sense of security and deterring potential criminals from committing offences. An example of this has been the introduction of CCTV cameras in town centres, which has been shown to decrease anti-social behaviour, such as public drunkenness and vandalism.

'In London, the extensive CCTV network has contributed to reducing crime rates in several boroughs, making the city safer for residents and visitors. I'm sure this would have that same impact within taxis and private hire vehicles.'

From a policing point of view, CCTV footage provides crucial evidence for investigating crimes, identifying suspects and securing convictions. Numerous criminal cases in the UK have been solved with the help of CCTV recordings, supporting the prosecution's case and ensuring justice for victims.

## Installing CCTV systems

CCTV systems approved by TfL can be installed in taxis and private hire vehicles. When you take your vehicle for its annual licensing inspection, the CCTV system will be checked to make sure it is approved and that it has been fitted correctly.

Images recorded must be kept secure at all times and can only be retained for 28 days from the date when they were taken. The [Information Commissioner's Office](#) has guidance on how to keep personal data secure.

TfL also publishes a set of [guidelines](#) on CCTV. These guidelines set out to ensure that CCTV systems installed in London taxis and private hire vehicles are properly managed while being used to prevent and detect crime, and enhance the health, safety and security of taxi and private hire drivers and passengers.

## Criteria for CCTV

Any in-vehicle CCTV system installed in a licensed taxi and private hire vehicle should meet the following criteria:

- The system should only record video footage of the driver and passengers inside the vehicle
- Systems can record audio, although it is not to be recorded at all times. Systems should only record audio when the driver or a passenger activates this and will then only record for a few minutes
- Video and audio footage from in-vehicle CCTV in taxis and private hire vehicles should not be monitored in real time or livestreamed while being recorded
- Footage is to be stored for a specified retention period and should only be accessed by authorised users during this period if there is an incident or a complaint is received
- After the specified retention period has passed the video and any audio recorded is to be deleted
- All vehicles with in-vehicle CCTV installed must display clear signage informing passengers that they are being recorded

## CCTV signage

All taxis and private hire vehicles fitted with a CCTV system must display the sign shown here in a prominent position. The driver may also verbally bring to the attention of the passengers that CCTV equipment is in operation within the vehicle if it is felt necessary or appropriate. Signs are available for collection from all vehicle inspection centres.



## TfL approved CCTV suppliers/installers

Supplier	CCTV/ incident camera name	Camera system details	Taxis and private hire vehicles approved
<a href="#">Exeros</a> 0800 368 8175	Exeros Trackeye Nano I68SD	Trackeye Nano I080p forward-facing camera, Nano 720p interior camera	TX4/TXe/PHV
<a href="#">VisionTrack</a> 01246 225745	VT5500	Forward-facing camera CAM2I4, rear-facing CAMI00 butterfly camera, Interior EEVT-C6 IR camera (or EEVT228 forward/rear camera may be used) and panic button	TXe/PHV
	VT2200	Forward-facing incident camera, passenger-facing CCTV camera SRT-950IR and panic button.	PHV
<a href="#">Nauto</a>	Nauto CCTV/ incident bi-directional camera system	Nauto 2 (N2) forward-facing incident camera incorporating an internal-facing CCTV camera	PHV
<a href="#">Vue</a> +44 (0)161 877 2257	Vuematic VMC4 CCTV and incident recorder system	Forward and rear-facing incident camera model VMCFHD and CCTV camera model VDRCCCDI2V	TXe/PHV
<a href="#">Camera Telematics</a> 0333 577 5373	Street Angel Ct2020	Ct2020 forward-facing incident camera Internal-facing CCTV camera(s) (any combination of the above)	TX4/Vito/PHV
<a href="#">Surecam</a> +44 (0)845 548 5447	IT500	IT500 SD card	TX4/PHV
	IT1000 Everec 340 camera	IT1000 Everec 340 forward-facing incident camera (over the air)	TX4/Vito/PHV
	IT2000 Everec 342 and I6I cameras	IT2000 Everec 342 forward-facing camera, with Everec I5I internal-facing camera	PHV
<a href="#">Taxiworld</a> 020 8885 8666	Incident camera Square camera	Forward-facing camera with optional internal-facing camera	TX4/Vito/TXe
	Incident camera Long camera	Forward-facing camera with optional internal-facing camera	TX4/Vito/TXe
<a href="#">Kasava</a> +44 (0) 208 102 9888	Kasava KDC404 Camera System	Forward-facing incident camera KDC404 and interior-facing CCTV camera KAI01	TX4/TXe/PHV
	Kasava KDC506 Camera System	Forward-facing incident camera KDC506 and interior-facing CCTV camera KAI02	TX4/TXe/PHV
	Kasava KDC507 Camera System	Single camera with forward-facing and interior-facing lens	TX4/PHV

## TfL approved CCTV continued

Supplier	CCTV/ incident camera name	Camera system details	Taxis and private hire vehicles approved
<a href="#">Matrix Telematics</a> +44 (0)161 441 1001	Incident camera (Matrix Telematics)	Incident camera (Matrix Telematics) forward-facing incident camera with panic button	PHV
<a href="#">KIWI Voice and Data Ltd</a> Tel: 03330 110490	Matrix IC-PRO aka KIWI IC-PRO	Incident and CCTV camera system - forward, rear and interior-recording system with panic button	PHV
<a href="#">Samsara</a> +44 (0) 20 3965 2700	Samsara CM31 Dash Cam	Samsara CM31 forward-facing incident camera	PHV
	Samsara CM32 Dash Cam	Samsara CM32 forward-facing incident recorder with interior-facing camera incorporated into it	PHV
<a href="#">SAFE systems</a> 01706 551212	SAFEsystems MDVR 605	Forward-facing incident recorder with optional rear-facing incident camera and Internal-facing CCTV camera	PHV
<a href="#">Smartwitness</a> +44 (0) 1483 397005	Smartwitness KPI	Forward-facing incident camera and Internal-facing CCTV camera	TX4/PHV
	Smartwitness Xvision SVC100GPS	Forward-facing incident camera	TX4/Vito/PHV
<a href="#">Advanced Communications and Security Solutions Ltd</a> 020 8391 8360	ACXIB-AHD	Forward, rear and Interior-facing CCTV camera system with choice of DVR	TXe/PHV
	ACXIN-HD		TXe/PHV
	ACMIB-AHD		TXe/PHV

This is the current list, but subject to change

**CCTV** = internal recording

**Incident camera** = exterior recording

**Please note:** Approved signage must be in place at all times. This comprises of a TfL-issued interior sign informing passengers of the data controller details and a supplier-issued exterior-facing sign informing the public that recording is taking place from the vehicle

### Taxis and all PHVs

TX4, Vito, TXe, Dynamo and all private hire vehicles (PHVs)



The STaN team at work



## Out with the STaN team

The Safer Travel at Night (STaN) campaign notches up a gear with a customer engagement event taking place at Meridian Square, Stratford, on 8 August. Prior to the event, Operations Officer Brenda Whitelocke, explained what happened on her last STaN operation at the end of May.

‘Last night was the last of our seven nights. Myself and my colleague Lawal Aisiku thoroughly enjoyed engaging with members of the public and giving safety advice on how to get home safely.

‘Some people we spoke to admitted getting into licensed vehicles, which they did not book and unlicensed vehicles while intoxicated in order to get home quickly. As a result of us giving safety advice, they all said they would not be doing that again and would take measures to get home safely.

‘I find that the STaN campaign is an excellent way to get the safety message across.’

### Keep safe

Just a reminder that the Stay safe while working leaflet, produced by the Metropolitan Police Service in partnership with TfL, for taxi and private hire drivers is still available. It contains information on how drivers can keep their money and possessions safe while also ensuring their own safety, and how to report any criminal activity they may see while driving. The leaflet can be downloaded from the health and wellbeing section located on the [TfL website](#).



Signage shows if drivers are carrying the kits

## Band-aid

### Emergency bandage kits in taxis could help save lives

A new initiative from the charity Rapaid aims to save lives by locating easy-to-find, simple-to-use bandages in public spaces, work environments and taxis. The kits enable bystanders, victims and first responders on the scene of an emergency to stop blood loss.

Rapaid's vision is 'to make life-saving emergency bandages as commonplace and as accessible as fire extinguishers and defibrillators right across the UK. With your help we can make this happen'.

The idea for the kits first occurred to Alex Chivers, a former special forces soldier, while serving as a firearms officer with Wiltshire police. He started the charity Rapaid in 2019, putting the emergency kits into taxis in Manchester. Since then, the scheme has expanded to Oxford, Swindon and Exeter, and now London, after TfL approved the initiative. The scheme is also supported by the London Taxi Drivers' Association (LTDA) as cabbies are often approached by people on the street in emergency situations.



## Emergency aid

The kits are used by the military and emergency services worldwide to treat life-threatening haemorrhaging. Each bag contains four emergency bandages, surgical gloves and a rigid instruction card with clear, easy to understand pictures and instructions. There is also a green window sticker in each kit taxi drivers can display on their windscreen so emergency first responders, such as off-duty medics or police officers, can see they are carrying the kits.

Alex Chivers says: 'When it comes to serious blood loss, time really does save lives and the quicker direct pressure can be applied and treatment begins the better the chances of survival. The grim fact is you can bleed to death in under five minutes!

'It made perfect sense for the drivers to carry the emergency kits as they are in and out of our community 24/7 and the bandages are quick and simple to use with no specialist training needed. Nobody is expecting the taxi drivers to become pseudo paramedics, but they are helping us all by just carrying the bandage bags and displaying the window stickers, so the public and emergency services can flag them down and have immediate access.

'To date we've given out 500 bandage bags to taxis in London and we have another 1,500 bags to donate to London. So, I am busy, busy with 2,000 bags to pack in my kitchen to get down to various spots in and around London.

'We had a very good day giving out the kits at the taxi-feeder park in Heathrow and this is a good spot to get all the cabs in one place. Going forward, we will probably be using the feeder park again and also City Airport, as these are good spots to give out the bags and put the stickers on the taxi windows.'

Steve McNamara, general secretary of the LTDA said: 'We are delighted to be supporting this fantastic initiative with the potential to save lives. Black cabs are a staple on London's streets and so are ideally placed to carry these bandages, with participating taxis able to be quickly flagged down in an emergency or drivers to pull over and help if they come across a serious incident or life-threatening situation. We know that cabbies often stop to assist people in distress and help keep Londoners safe when the worst happens, now they will be better equipped to do so.'

Alex adds: 'I want to also thank TfL for supporting this life-saving initiative. With further funding, it is our hope and aim that one day up to 8,000 cabs in the capital will carry these bandage kits.'



You can contact [Rapid](https://www.rapid.org) if you would like to make a donation or find out more about carrying one of the kits.

# The manual

Tips, advice and policy updates from TfL



Safeguarding passengers in taxis and private hire vehicles

## Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (Safeguarding and Road Safety) Act 2022

This Notice supplements TPH Notice 'National Register of Taxi Licence Revocations and Refusals' and outlines the duties the Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (Safeguarding and Road Safety) Act 2022 places on licensing authorities in England.

In line with the Department for Transport's Statutory Standards, since 1 September 2021 we have been providing details of all taxi and private hire driver licence revocation and refusal decisions to a national database. Details of such decisions taken between 1 January

2018 and 31 August 2021 were also uploaded. Section 2 of the 2022 Act came into effect on 27 April this year and makes it mandatory for licensing authorities in England to input, into a database, instances where the authority has refused, suspended, revoked, or chosen not to renew, a taxi or private hire driver's licence, based wholly or in part on information relating to the driver concerning safeguarding or road safety.

For the purposes of the 2022 Act, the Secretary of State has designated the National Register of Taxi Licence Revocations, Refusals and Suspensions (known as the NR3S) as the database licensing authorities must use.

The information entered on the NR3S database is:

- Name
- Date of birth
- Home address
- National insurance number
- Driving licence number
- Decision taken (not the reason for it)
- Date of decision
- The date the decision took effect
- The date a suspension is due to end

We are now adding to the NR3S database all new decisions to suspend a licence. This information will be updated, for example when a licensing decision has been changed or successfully appealed.

It is also a mandatory requirement for any licensing authority in England to search the database for any entry relating to an applicant before deciding whether to grant or renew a taxi or private hire driver licence. If there is relevant information the authority will be required to contact the recording authority to request the information.

We have been checking the database in respect of every new and renewal application for a taxi or private hire driver's licence since 1 September 2021 and will continue to do so. In addition, the Act places duties on taxi and private hire vehicle licensing authorities in England to share safeguarding and road safety concerns about taxi and private hire drivers with each other. In accordance with section 5 of the 2022 Act, since 31 May 2022, where we have information about a taxi or private hire driver licensed by another authority that is relevant to safeguarding or road safety concerns in its area, we have shared this information with the authority that issued that driver's licence. We have updated our privacy notice about the NR3S database, which is available at [www.tfl.gov.uk/corporate/privacy-and-cookies/](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/corporate/privacy-and-cookies/) (see Taxi and Private Hire: National Register of Refusals and Revocations tab). The Department for Transport has issued statutory guidance to support taxi and private hire licensing authorities in England in complying with the 2022 Act.

**Graham Robinson**  
General Manager  
Taxi and Private Hire,  
TfL



# Under assessment

## Testing times at Pier Walk

TPH's new driver assessment centre opened at Pier Walk on 20 February this year. It joins the centre at Ashfield House in West Kensington, and at present is processing 300 assessments a day, or 1,500 a week. However, this number is due to rise as Kenny Folami, acting head of Operational Business Improvement at TPH, explains: 'We have sufficient space at Pier Walk to expand to do 400 assessments a day and are looking to increase this even further.'

'Although the assessment process itself has been going really well, we do want to emphasise the need for drivers to attend their English language and Safety, Equality and Regulatory Understanding (SERU) assessments at the time and date provided, unless there are exceptional circumstances preventing them from doing so.'

Each time a driver doesn't turn up for their appointment, not only does it cost

TfL money, but it also means they are wasting an appointment another driver could have attended. As Kenny says: 'If you can't make your appointment, you need to let us know, because if you miss it, you may then not have enough time to rebook your assessment before the 30 September deadline.'

## Dates for compliance

New applicants who applied after 1 April 2023, will still be required to take and pass the English language speaking and listening test, and SERU assessment before they can be licensed.

The dates for compliance are:

- Private hire drivers who failed to provide English language evidence prior to 30 September 2021, have until 30 September this year to take and pass the English language speaking and listening test, and SERU assessment



You need to bring original documents with you

- Private hire drivers who provided unsatisfactory evidence by 30 September 2021, have until 30 September 2024 to take and pass the English language speaking and listening test, and SERU assessment
- Private hire drivers who applied on or after 1 October 2021, and were licensed without passing the English language speaking and listening test or SERU assessment, have until 30 September 2024 to take and pass them
- Any licensed driver who provided satisfactory English language requirement evidence by 30 September 2021, will have until 31 March 2025 to take and pass the SERU assessment

For full information check the [TfL website](#)

### Assessment schedule

Assessments are held Monday to Friday. Your booking confirmation letter will advise you of your arrival time. Please arrive promptly and allow up to three and a half hours to complete the whole assessment process.

The Topographical assessment is 90 minutes long, the SERU assessment is 50 minutes, and the English Language assessment is 15 minutes in length.

You must be booked into an assessment to enter the building, so bring your booking confirmation letter with you to show on arrival.

### What to expect

You will need to bring a valid original passport to confirm your identity. If you don't have a passport, an original full UK or European Economic Area (EEA) driving licence with a photograph will be accepted. Photocopies will not be accepted. If you fail to bring these documents, you will be refused entry to the assessment. You do not need to bring any other materials for the assessment itself, as everything you will need is provided for you.

### Adjustments

If you have any special requirements, mobility issues or require any reasonable adjustments to enable you to sit the assessment, please contact us on 0343 222 4444 or alternatively email [TPHDriverassessments@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:TPHDriverassessments@tfl.gov.uk) prior to your assessment.

## More on assessments

You can learn everything you need to know about the SERU assessment in the [TPH Private Hire Driver Handbook](#).





## Amends to taxi and private hire driver policy

TfL is making some minor amendments to the taxi and private hire driver policy.

The changes are:

- Updates to reflect last year's changes to the transitional provisions for the English language and SERU requirements for private hire drivers
- Revision of policy in respect of those who fail the Topographical, English language or SERU assessment
- Inclusion of the more serious offences of harassment and stalking in convictions guidance
- Reduction in the period before re-licensing will be considered after a 'totting' disqualification (from 12 months to six months after the end of the disqualification period)
- Revision to the policy on drivers disqualified for 28 days or less. The licence will be suspended, but does not need to be returned. Previously, the licence was surrendered for the period of the disqualification
- New guidance advice on breaches of court orders
- Updates made to reflect mandatory use of the NR3S and other requirements in the Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (Safeguarding and Road Safety) Act 2022
- Updates to reflect additional offences in the Equality Act 2010 created by the Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles (Disabled Persons) Act 2022
- Revised guidance to provide clarification on re-licensing drivers pending outcome of DBS check and when drivers can work after the expiry of their licence

Please refer to the [TPH Driver Policy](#) to see the changes in full.





ULEZ is expanding on 29 August

## ULEZ expansion

The Ultra Low Emission Zone is expanding across all London boroughs from 29 August this year.

If you drive anywhere within the ULEZ, including the expanded area, and your vehicle does not meet the emissions standards, you could face a daily charge of £12.50. This includes residents of the ULEZ. However, you don't need to pay the ULEZ charge if you are parked inside the zone and don't drive.

Your vehicle must meet the required Euro emissions standard to meet the ULEZ emissions standard. For newer vehicles, the Euro emissions standard may be listed in section D.2 of your vehicle logbook (V5C).

The ULEZ standards are:

- Euro 4 (NOx) for petrol cars, vans, minibuses and other specialist vehicles

- Euro 6 (NOx and PM) for diesel cars, vans and minibuses, and other specialist vehicles

All licensed London taxis are exempt from ULEZ payments, while more than four out of five vehicles already meet the emissions standards. All private hire vehicles licensed for the first time must be zero emission capable (ZEC) and meet the Euro 6 emissions standard. All private hire vehicles which are fully electric or have a hydrogen fuel cell will meet the new licensing requirements and the Euro 6 emissions standards.

Private hire vehicles designated as wheelchair-accessible by TfL will be exempt from the charge until 24 October 2027.

To see if your vehicle meets the ULEZ emission standards, you can use [TfL's vehicle checker](#).



# Coronation special

A big thank you to all the taxi and private hire drivers who helped make the King's Coronation such a resounding success by getting Londoners and visitors alike around the capital during the weekend of 6 and 7 May.

Also, a big shout out to the taxi marshals who were on duty in pairs at taxi ranks across London for the occasion. On the Saturday, the marshals assisted more than 5,300 passengers taking 2,061 taxis at six stations, while on the Sunday, 1,100 passengers were assisted into 505 taxis at three stations, including Clapham Junction.

Celebrations went on into the night for the Coronation





MAYOR OF LONDON