

Use of protective screens in Private Hire and Hackney vehicles

We have introduced a temporary policy on the use of protective screens in private hire vehicles (starts from 25 January 2021).

Temporary policy on the use of protective screens in private hire and Hackney vehicles.

The policy permits protective screens in both private hire and Hackney vehicles with requirements that:

- a) The device is not to be permanently installed in the vehicle and shall be removed no later than one calendar month after the expiry of national Coronavirus Regulations, including the temporary fixings
- b) The device must not be fitted in such a way that it affects the structural integrity of the vehicle, or interferes with any manufacturer fitted safety equipment like air bags
- c) The device must be fitted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions
- d) The device must be fitted behind the two front seats (not between the two front seats)
- e) The device must be composed of fire retardant materials
- f) The device must meet relevant safety standards
- g) The device must not impede driver or passenger access or egress to the vehicle
- h) The device must not impede the driver's vision, movement or communication with passengers
- i) The vehicle insurance company should be notified of any modifications made to the vehicle
- j) The licensing department must be contacted in advance of a device being installed in order to provide appropriate advice and guidance on the suitability of the proposed device
- k) Our Vehicle Testing Station must be contacted after the installation of a device and an inspection arranged as appropriate
- l) Responsibility for fitting and maintenance of the device rests with the licence holder and Oadby and Wigston Borough Council accept no liability in this respect

m) The driver of the vehicle must ensure that the vehicle and the device are properly cleaned and sanitised before and after each passenger journey in accordance with government advice to the taxi trade. Get more information at [GOV.UK - guidance for operators](#).

n) The device will be checked during the regular six monthly vehicle inspections to ensure it continues to meet the requirements of the policy

The temporary policy shall expire one calendar month after the expiry of the national Coronavirus Regulations.

Consideration will be given to the development of a permanent policy permitting protective screens in private hire vehicles.