

North Tyneside Council

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy

Vehicle Testing Arrangements – Components to be Inspected

Body / Vehicle Structure

Free from excessive corrosion or damage in specific areas. No sharp edges likely to cause injury.

Speedometer/Odometer

Condition and operation.

Fuel System

No leaks. Security and condition of pipes/hoses. Fuel cap fastens and seals securely.

Exhaust Emissions

Vehicle meets the requirements for exhaust emissions, dependent on the age and fuel type of the vehicle.

Exhaust System

Secure. Complete. Catalyst missing where one was fitted as standard. Without serious leaks and is not too noisy.

Seat Belts

All the seat belts fitted are checked for type, condition, operation and security. All mandatory seat belts must be in place. Check of the Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL) for air bags and seat belt pre tensioners and load limiters.

Seats

Driver's seat for adjustment. All seats for security and seat backs can be secured in the upright position.

Doors

Latch securely in closed position. Front doors should open from the inside and outside the vehicle. Rear doors should open from outside the vehicle. Hinges and catches for security and condition.

Mirrors

Minimum number required, condition and security. Indirect vision devices.

Load Security

Boot or tailgate can be secured in the closed position.

Brakes

Condition including inappropriate repairs or modifications, operation and performance (efficiency test). Note the removal of the road wheels and trims are not part of the test. Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) and Electronic Stability Control (ESC) where fitted. Check of the dashboard Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL) for ABS, ESC, electronic park brake and brake fluid warning.

Tyres and Wheels (including spare)

Condition, security, tyre size/type and tread depth. Note: vehicles first used on or after 1st January 2012 – check of the MIL for Tyre Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS).

Registration Plates

Condition, security, colour, characters correctly formed and spaced.

Lights

Condition, operation including High Intensity Discharge (HID) and Light Emitting Diode (LED) headlamps for cleaning, self-levelling and security. Headlamp aim. Main beam warning light.

Bonnet

Securely latches in the closed position.

Wipers / Washers

Operate to give the driver a clear view ahead.

Windscreen

Condition and driver's view of the road.

Horn

Correct operation and of suitable type.

Steering and Suspension

Condition, steering oil level, operation, a check for inappropriate repairs or modification including corrosion to power steering pipes or hoses. Operation of steering lock mechanism. Check of MIL for electronic power steering and steering lock.

Towbars (if fitted)

Security/condition/inappropriate repairs or modification. Correct operation of 13 pin electrical socket.

Vehicle Identification Number

Present on vehicles first used on or after 1st August 1980. A single VIN is displayed except on multistage build vehicles (e.g. van conversion, BMW/ Alpina).

Electrical

Visible electrical wiring and battery

Vehicle Interior

Clean.

Vehicle Exterior

Uniform colour.

Glass

Windscreen - minimum 75% light transmittance.

Front side windows - minimum 70% light transmittance

If tinted windows are fitted as standard there will be no minimum light transmission to the rear of the B pillar.

All other windows – minimum 34% light transmittance

Meter (if fitted)

Must be of an approved type and sealed.

Spare Wheel

The vehicle shall be equipped with either:

- (a) A spare wheel of full or space save design above the legal tread requirement and the tools to change a wheel, or
- (b) An emergency puncture repair kit (to include compressor/inflator) or
- (c) Run flat tyres or
- (d) Provide evidence of a contract with a mobile tyre replacement specialist.

Wheel-brace & Jack (only if spare wheel present)

Present. Correct operation.

Luggage Accommodation

Compartment clean, empty.

Seats & Interior Trim

Clean, free from rips or tears.

Floor Covering

Clean. No obstructions.

Licence Plate (Annual and Interim Tests Only)

Present. Securely attached to vehicle. Correct location on vehicle. In satisfactory condition and information legible

NTC Windscreen Disc

Present. Securely attached to windscreen. In satisfactory condition, information legible.

NTC Door Signs

Present. Fitted correctly. In satisfactory condition, information legible.

NTC Emergency/ Information Signs (Minibuses/PCV's)
Present. In satisfactory condition, information legible.

For Hire Sign (hackney carriage only)
Present. Works in conjunction with meter and roof-sign.

Roof Sign (Hackney carriages only)
Present. Correct type and size for type of vehicle. Correct colours. Lettering correct size.

Advertising - bodywork
Approved. Present only on rear doors & boot area of vehicle unless approved.

Advertising - glass
Approved. Present only on top edge of windscreen.

NTC Fare Table (hackney carriage only) (Dashboard/partition/Rear Windows)
Present. In satisfactory condition. Most recent issue.

Byelaws (hackney carriage only)
Present. Satisfactory condition and legible

Interior Door Locks (Purpose built hackney carriage only)
Work in conjunction with foot-brake.

Ramps (if present)
Present. Stored securely. Adequate locking device must be fitted to ensure the ramps do not slip or tilt when in use.

Wheelchair Anchorages (if applicable)
Must be of an approved type (chassis or floor linked and capable of withstanding approved dynamic or static tests).

Tail-Lifts (if present)
Must have valid LOLER Certificate. Tail lift must not prevent the rear door(s) from being opened and must be easily moved if the power supply fails.

Wheelchair Anchorages (if applicable)
Must be of an approved type (chassis or floor linked and capable of withstanding approved dynamic or static tests).

Tail-Lifts (if present)
Must have valid LOLER Certificate. Tail lift must not prevent the rear door(s) from being opened and must be easily moved if the power supply fails.