

**TAXI**  
**GLOBE**



**WARNERS**  
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## REMOVAL OF MID-YEAR INSPECTIONS FOR TAXIS

Following the Consultation carried out by the PCO into the future arrangements for taxi and Private Hire Vehicle (PHV) licensing inspections, the mid year inspection is no longer a requirement for taxis. During his campaign to become Mayor, Boris Johnson had promised London's cab trade that he would abolish the mid year, and as from 6th November 2008, the inspection has gone. In the Consultation one of the options was to replace the mid year inspections with increased on-street compliance checks; the PCO say this is "under consideration".

The announcement came in a PCO Notice issued late in the afternoon of 5th November 2008 with the effect that taxi owners with a mid-year inspection appointment on or after 6 November 2008 would no longer be required to present their vehicle at an SGS centre for inspection, nor would those with a provisional mid-year inspection appointment at SGS need to confirm or attend their appointment. Owners of a taxi that had failed its mid-year inspection prior to 6 November 2008, still needed to re-present their taxi for a satisfactory re-inspection before returning the vehicle back into service. Failure to do this would result in the vehicle being made subject to an 'Unfit' notice that prohibits it from being used in service until such time as it has been inspected and found fit for service.

#### LICENCE FEES AND REFUNDS

Licence fees will be adjusted in due course to reflect the abolition of mid-year inspections and any potential

increase in on-street compliance checks. Until then the licence fee remains at £178, and owners will be required to pay this fee when booking a taxi licensing inspection appointment on or after 6 November 2008. The PCO advise owners that once the new licence fee has been set, refunds will be made to all taxi owners who will have paid a licence fee of £178 and whose taxis will not have been required to undergo a mid-year inspection. A further PCO Notice will be issued in due course about decisions in respect of on-street compliance checks and the new licence fee.

At the same time, the PCO issued a PCO Notice to the private hire trade, informing them that TfL has decided not to make any changes to the present licensing inspection arrangements for PHVs. This means any private hire vehicle older than 12 months at the date of the annual vehicle licensing inspection must have an MoT test certificate issued not more than 14 days prior to the date of the licensing inspections. During the currency of the vehicle licence, the vehicle owner must obtain a further MoT test certificate before a period of 6 months has elapsed from the date the vehicle licence was issued.

If you need any further clarification you can call the PCO Contract Management Team on 020 7126 1638 or email [pcotaxicontract@pco.org.uk](mailto:pcotaxicontract@pco.org.uk)

## TAXI DRIVERS & OWNERS LEGAL PROTECTION SOCIETY

Taxi drivers & Owners Legal Protection Society (TOLPS) are pleased to announce the launch of their new non-political trade organization. They are now accepting members and intend to commence cover early in January, 2009. The Society will provide legal cover and representation for fully paid-up members.

#### THE BENEFITS of JOINING

- \* Up to £25,000 for Legal Insurance Cover.
- \* Legal cover for all Hackney Carriage offences.

- \* Cover for all motoring offences whilst working as a cab driver.
- \* Representation for Revocations and suspension of your cab driver's licence.
- \* Low annual subscription rate of only £84.00p
- \* Easy payment plan. Pay just £7.00p per month by Standing Order
- \* 24-hour helpline.

For further details call Dave on 07956 894701, from 2pm -5pm,  
Alan on 07831 092123  
from 5pm-9pm or via email  
[topsltd2009@googlemail.com](mailto:topsltd2009@googlemail.com)

## M&O LONDON - TX4 RECALL UPDATE

On Friday 31st October at 5pm, Mann & Overton London confirmed that they had made telephone contact with and appointed all but eight of the owners of the 673 TX4's who have had their licences suspended by the PCO.

Several attempts have been made to reach the remaining eight, both by phone and letter, during recent weeks, but without success or response. All eight were therefore written to again by M&O London and given firm appointments and booking references for Friday 7th November.

Now that contact has been made with all of the affected owners, M&O London are on course to have all the suspended vehicles back on the road by or ahead of the 12th November deadline announced

in the latest statement issued by LTI Vehicles.



Mann & Overton

The list of vehicles M&O London have been working to has been derived from their own sales records together with data supplied by the PCO for all licensed TX4's within the suspended range. M&O London are therefore confident that there will be very few, if any, who have been missed.

M&O London ask any drivers who may slipped through the net and have not yet received an appointment to get in touch with them urgently on 020 7700 0888.

The next task is to work on the remaining 2,700 of the London TX4 fleet in an effort to have the LTI recall action completed upon all of them during the coming weeks.

