

North Lincolnshire Council



Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensees

Following the advice of NHS England and Public Health England, North Lincolnshire Council is providing the following guidance to hackney carriage (HCV) and private hire vehicle (PHV) drivers and proprietors in the North Lincolnshire. We must all be disciplined with our hygiene measures, social distancing and infection control and realise that everything we do has an impact. We all have a responsibility to stop Covid-19 and prevent local outbreaks.

Drivers are encouraged to:

- Always carry tissues and use them to catch coughs and sneezes
- Dispose of used tissues in the bin as soon as possible
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water, or use sanitizer gel, to kill germs
- Clean surfaces regularly with sanitizing wipes or spray to get rid of germs

We advise all licensees, including HCV and PHV drivers, to follow these simple and sensible steps at all times and particularly during the outbreak of Coronavirus.

It is sensible to take extra care by cleaning surfaces regularly with sanitizing wipes or by spraying to get rid of germs. As ever, drivers should consider regularly cleaning card payment devices. Licensees who share a hackney carriage or private hire vehicle should consider regularly cleaning the steering wheel and instruments.

Public Health England is the lead agency for Coronavirus advice and is providing regularly updated information for the public on the outbreak of Coronavirus. You can access the most up-to-date information in the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

If you have any symptoms of coronavirus you should stay at home and book a test through the NHS Test and Trace service: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

The Government has published transport guidance on providing transport services safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. There are separate guidance documents for transport providers and for passengers. Guidance documents cover all modes of transport.

The guidance sets out government recommendations on who should be travelling and under what circumstances, and how social distancing rules should be interpreted. It also includes information about cleaning practices.

- [guidance for passengers](#)
- [guidance for operators](#)
- [guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19](#)
- [guidance for households with a possible coronavirus infection](#)

It is important that you review and implement these guidance documents if you are operating a taxi or private hire vehicle business, or are a self-employed driver.

You may also wish to consider:

- Eliminating the use of face-to-face passenger seating
- Use of ventilation
- Reducing occupancy to individual passengers in the back left-hand seat for vehicles that do not enable 2 metre separation; considering reducing occupancy in a larger vehicle
- The requirement from 15 June for face coverings to be worn while using public transport in England does not cover taxis and private hire vehicles. The trade is already able to require (with limited exemptions) passengers to wear these. Taxi drivers are already able to refuse to carry passengers where it is reasonable to do so (section 53 Town Police Clauses Act 1847). This might include those that are able but refuse to wear a face covering where you have legitimate concerns. Private hire vehicle operators can make the wearing of face covering a condition of hiring.

Taxi and Private Hire Vehicles can transport workers and patients to and from hospitals. However, passengers should not use Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicles if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or if they are self-isolating.

In addition there may be grants available to businesses during this difficult time, here is the link to the Invest in North Lincolnshire website for information related to businesses - <https://investinnorthlincolnshire.com/coronavirus>