



Transport for London Act 2008 London Taxis

The Transport for London Act 2008 received Royal Assent on 22 May 2008. Part 3 of the Act makes a number of provisions with regard to London taxis and private hire vehicles. This Notice summarises the provisions of the Act as they affect London taxis. PCO Notice 18/08 sets out the provisions affecting London PHVs.

Unless otherwise stated the provisions will come into force on 22 July 2008.

- Sections 9 and 10 provide TfL with the power to designate directional taxi ranks and rest ranks for drivers.

The consultation procedures and formal processes for designating, suspending or revoking these ranks will be the same as the well-established processes for conventional ranks.

- Section 11 amends the London Hackney Carriages Act 1843 by replacing the term 'metal ticket' in respect of taxi driver's badges with the term 'badge'.
- Section 12 amends section 16 of the 1843 Act to prevent TfL disclosing the address of the holder of a cab licence to any person unless it appears to TfL that that person has sufficient reason for requiring that information.
- Section 13 changes the sum specified in section 19 of the 1843 Act that TfL can charge for a replacement badge from 15p to "a sum as TfL shall consider reasonable".

From 22 July 2008, until further notice, no charge will be made for a replacement taxi driver's badge.

- Section 14 amends section 38 of the 1843 Act by increasing the time limit for making complaints for cab driving offences from 7 to 28 days.
- Section 15 amends the London Cab and Stage Carriage Act 1907 by allowing a taxi driver and passenger to agree in advance a fare for a journey starting within, but ending outside, London. In the absence of such agreement the fare payable must be that on the taxi meter.

Taxi drivers accepting fares from Heathrow Airport should take particular notice of this provision.

- Section 16 amends section 2 of the London Hackney Carriages Act 1853 to allow TfL to serve an unfit notice on the driver as well as the proprietor of a cab found to be unfit preventing the cab being used until it is repaired.

An unfit notice means that, with immediate effect, the vehicle cannot be used for hire and reward purposes until the notice is cleared. If the vehicle is used in contravention of the notice, then the vehicle licence can be suspended.

- Sections 17 to 22 and Schedules 1 and 2 provide for the introduction of a regime for fixed penalties for certain offences relating to London taxis (failure to wear or to produce badge; failure to produce copy of licence; plying outside licensed area; carrying excess passengers; failure to attend cab at cab standing) with power for the Secretary of State to add further offences.

This provision will be enacted on a date to be determined by TfL. Further details will be published prior to any commencement date.

The full text of the Transport for London Act 2008 can be found at http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/localact2008/pdf/ukla_20080001_en.pdf

The Abstract of Laws for taxi drivers will be updated accordingly.



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