

PRESTON CITY COUNCIL

COMPLIANCE TESTING STANDARDS

THESE STANDARDS ARE IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STATUTORY MOT TESTING SCHEME
AND MUST BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE LICENSING POLICY (APRIL 2013)

METHOD OF INSPECTION	REASON FOR FAILURE	NOTES	APPLIES TO:
1. EXTERIOR OF THE VEHICLE			
1.1 The exterior of the bodywork, the underside of vehicle and engine compartment is to be in a clean condition so as to facilitate full inspection of these areas.	1. Contamination preventing full or proper inspection.	If the vehicle arrives for inspection in a dirty condition the inspection will not be carried out. (A new appointment will have to be made and a full fee payable)	HV / PV
1.2 Check all doors to ensure that they are aligned properly, will open and close easily and all gaps around doors are reasonably equal.	2. Doors will not close securely due to warping / incorrect hinges.		HV/PV
1.3 Check to ensure all door hinges are in good condition, allowing free movement of door.	3. Door hinges defective.		HV/ PV
1.4 Check all door check positions to ensure that doors are held in place and door opens to 90 degree position.	4. Door checks fail to hold doors in 90 degree open position.	Any door check strap must be type approved by the manufacturer. Leather check strap acceptable.	HV / PV

<p>1.5 Examine the external body panels and structures for any evidence of corrosion, damage, or unsatisfactory repairs. Check for the suitability of replacement panels (<i>see notes</i>). (Ensure all replacement panels are correctly located and fitted)</p>	<p>5. Corrosion or damage to the vehicle body or structure which adversely affects the appearance and/or safety of the vehicle. Replacement panels fitted that alter the effect of impact zones. Unsatisfactory repair. Gaps reasonably unequal around panels. Stone chips, dents, insecure or missing body panel, sharp edges, loose bumper bar or mounting, mounting bolts worn, fractured bumper bar bracket, abrasions or deformation to bumpers, rust or corrosion covered by advertising signs.</p>	<p>a) More than 8 stone chips visible on a bonnet/grill that has not penetrated to the metal or more than 4 stone chips that have penetrated to the metal. b) More than 8 stone chips on any panel including door edges, provided the base coat has not been penetrated. c) More than 4 stone chips on any panel where the base coat has been penetrated to the metal and is untreated. d) A single dent of more than 80mm, or more than 3 dents of not more than 20mm in any one panel e) More than 4 scratches and or abrasions of more than 50mm in length in any one panel provided that the base coat has not been penetrated.</p>	<p>HV / PV</p>
<p>1.6 Examine vehicle and ensure that there are no signs or colours which would lead the public to believe that such a vehicle was a hackney carriage.</p>	<p>6. Colour that does not conform. Any vehicle displaying "Taxi" signs, "Taxi bubbles" etc. No bubbles even if "taxi" has been removed.</p>	<p>Any MPV licensed as Private Hire shall not be coloured black or any dark colour. (See colour chart)</p>	<p>PV</p>
<p>1.7 Examine the external body and paint work for damage, which adversely affects the appearance of the vehicle.</p>	<p>7. Generally poor or damaged body or paint work. Dull or not uniform in colour and appearance. Repairs visible. Paintwork of poor standard. Paint runs visible.</p>	<p>All paintwork repairs are to be of a high standard. No sign of repairs are to be visible. All paint must be free of runs. When painting single panels the paint must match adjoining paint work. Where new panels are fitted they must be of a type approved by the vehicle manufacturer and / or meet current BS standards.</p>	<p>HV / PV</p>

1.8 Check nearside and offside door/wing mirrors are fitted in a secure manner and that they function correctly. Check whether a person sitting in the driver's seat can see clearly to the rear Ensure aerial is securely fixed to body.	8. Missing or defective exterior mirrors. Mirrors not positioned correctly so driver can see clearly to the rear. Aerial not securely fixed.		HV/ PV
1.9 Examine rubber seals to doors and windows for damage, looseness or absence.	9. Damaged or missing, or loose door seals which may cause rainwater ingress, unreasonable road noise or trip hazard.		HV / PV
1.10 Check reversing lights (if fitted) are in working order.	10. Reversing lights not in working order. Does not emit white defused light. Fails to extinguish when neutral gear is selected. Flicker when tapped by hand.		HV/ PV
1.11 Check for extra fittings outside	11. Particularly applies to items likely to cause injury to any road user. E.g. Whip like aerials, mascots, bull bars, flags.		HV / PV
1.12 Alternative taxis e.g. Euro cabs must display "Taxi" signs on both sides at rear in contrasting colour not less than 100mm	12. Taxi signs not fitted		HV
1.13 Check electrical steps (if fitted)	13. Defective. Operated from passenger compartment. No failsafe device.		HV / PV

1.14 Check that steps have non slip surface and edges must be highlighted	14. No non-slip surface and edges not highlighted		HV / PV
1.15 Check that windows fall into specifications.	15. Windscreen or windows missing, insecure or leaking. Not safety glass.		HV / PV
1.16 Check that no additional film is fitted to windows.	16. Additional film applied.		HV / PV
1.17 Check that windows do not have signs or stickers.	17. Signs or stickers applied.	The following are permitted: (Proportionate) No eating or drinking, public health and safety, permits for private ranks, trade organisation membership, no smoking.	HV / PV
1.18 High level stop lamp	18. Obscured / obviously incorrectly positioned. Less than 50% of lamp not working or obscured		HV
1.19 Check Front Fog / Driving lights that operate correctly	19. Lamp inoperative or operates other than in dipped beam mode. Lamps operate incorrectly. Pair of matched lamps or long range driving lamps not illuminating together.		HV / PV
2. BOOT			
2.1 Examine the boot interior for evidence of damage, corrosion or water penetration and insecure items.	1. Damage to the floor of the boot, inner wing panels or lid. (Evidence /dampness due to water ingress) Loose items,		HV / PV

2.2	Examine boot floor covering to ensure that it is in good condition and offers adequate protection to passengers' luggage stored in the boot.	2. Excessive wear, damage or staining to the boot floor covering.		HV / PV
2.3	Check that rear registration plate is hinged on 6 seater hackney carriage	3. Rear registration plate not hinged.	Only requirement for 6 seater hackney carriage as 5 seater there is a vacant space beside driver.	HV
2.4	Check that boot lid opens and closes or locks and boot support mechanism.	4. Unable to open or close or lock lid. Failure of boot support mechanism.		HV / PV
3. ENGINE COMPARTMENT				
3.1	Check to ensure that the battery is properly secured in its correct position	1. Battery not adequately secure		HV / PV
3.2	Check fan belt (and power steering belt if fitted) for correct adjustment and for signs of damage or deterioration	2. Incorrectly adjusted or damaged fan belt		HV / PV
3.3	Check security of radiator and hoses. Check for leaks.	3. Leaking or insecure		HV / PV
3.4	Examine engine mounts for signs of deterioration or wear.	4. Insecure or deteriorated engine mountings		HV / PV

3.5 Check clutch mechanisms for leakage of fluid	5. Leakage of fluid or mechanical wear in clutch mechanisms		HV / PV
3.6 Check security of bonnet fastening	6. Insecure bonnet fastening		HV / PV
3.7 Check for oil leaks or no oil cap	7. Leakage of oil or no oil cap fitted. When run, existence of oil leak which could be deposited on surrounding bodywork, exhaust or brake system.	The tester should note a pool of oil 75mm (diam) in 5 minutes	HV / PV
4. TYRES AND SPARE WHEELS			
4.1 Vehicle to be presented for test without trims or hub caps for tester to check wheel nuts / studs	1. Loose or missing studs	Trims or hubs caps to be available for inspection in vehicle to ensure they are in good condition.	HV / PV
4.2 Ensure that spare tyre is same size and construction as those fitted to the road wheels.	2. A spare wheel not provided with the vehicle. A tyre that is of a different size or construction. Rotational tyre as spare	If a car has tyres in a combination which conform to current legal requirements (e.g. radial or cross ply), the carrying of one spare wheel / tyre cannot be accepted since it can only be used in limited circumstances; therefore the vehicle will fail the test. A mix of steel and cord radials will not be accepted. If aerosol inflation device is supplied as standard, no need for spare tyre.	HV / PV
4.3 Examine tyres for signs of damage or excessive uneven wear; ensure spare tyre complies with all legal requirements for tyres when fitted to the vehicle.	3. Damaged, worn substandard or otherwise illegal tyre	Recut tyres are not acceptable. Remould tyres will only be acceptable if it carries a clearly legible manufacturer's mark that it conforms to current British Standards. TXI type vehicles must have "TAXI" tyres with the word "TAXI" on the outer wall.	HV / PV
4.4 Examine that a wheel brace and jack is provided.	4. Failure to provide a suitable jack / wheel brace.		HV / PV

4.5	Check to ensure the spare wheel fixing bracket (or similar device will hold spare securely in position.	5. Spare wheel and tools not secured properly		HV / PV
4.6	Check spare wheel rim for signs of distortion or damage.	6. Damaged wheel rim		HV / PV
4.7	All tyres to have a minimum tread depth of 1.6mm across 75% of centre tread width with the remaining 25% to have tread pattern showing, including spare.	7. A tyre not showing the required tread depth		HV / PV
4.9	Check to see if "run flat" are fitted. If so must have warning device.	9. No warning device.		PV
4.10	Check to see if space saver tyres are presented for test as a road wheel.	10. Space saver tyre used as road wheel	Space saver tyres are acceptable but must not be presented for test as road wheels	PV
5. INTERIOR				
5.1	Examine all floor and upholstery inside the vehicle for any damage, dust, litter cigarette ash, staining or excessive wear. Examine any mats to ensure they are not worn or damaged. Examine roof lining for excessive staining or any damage. Floor must be non-slip material	1. A vehicle which is in a dirty condition with accumulations of dirt, dust, litter debris, damage, etc., staining or water ingress. Worn, torn carpet floor covering, excessive cuts in roof lining. Upholstery including trims and panels which are damaged, excessively worn or holed / torn. Material that may cause slipping.	If the vehicle arrives for inspection in a dirty condition the inspection will not be carried out. (A new appointment will have to be made and a full fee payable) Where interior trims or roof lining have one rip or tear of not more than 100mm, a good quality stitched repair is acceptable (patches not allowed). Advice may be given that a roof lining will be required to be renewed at the next test.	HV / PV

5.2	Examine each of the seats within the vehicle to ensure that all seat cushions and back rests are in good condition and offer proper support.	2. Seat cushions or back rests which are in poor condition and / or offer poor support.	Where interior trims or roof lining have one rip or tear or not more than 100mm, a good quality stitched repair is acceptable (patches not allowed)	HV / PV
5.3	Examine all seats to ensure they are properly secured to the vehicle including fixed seat cushions.	3. Seats which are not adequately secured to the vehicle.		HV / PV
5.4	Check operation of interior lights, checking both manual and door operated switches. (Note - all doors to have switches fitted as standard by manufacturer)	4. Faulty interior light fitting, faulty interior light switches.		HV / PV
5.5	Examine the rear view mirror to ensure that it is securely fixed.	5. A loose damaged or missing interior mirror.		HV / PV
5.6	Check operation of the demisters and heater to ensure their correct operation. Ensure passenger compartment switches are all operational. Rear window demister to be fitted and serviceable.	6. Defective heater or demisters. Defective passenger compartment switches. Rear window demister not fitted or serviceable.		HV / PV
5.7	Check operation of all window locks and associated fittings	7. Window winders that do not allow windows to be lowered / raised easily. Defective window locks or associated fittings.		HV / PV

<p>5.8 Check the operation of all door release catches including motion door locks to ensure that doors can be opened easily from within the vehicle. Check for presence of motion door lock warning lamps and signs of their operation. Door handles to be clearly visible.</p>	<p>8. Defective interior door release catches. Defective motion locks, motion locks fitted with override. Warning lamps inoperative, warning lamps damaged or defaced. Door handles not clearly visible.</p>		<p>HV / PV</p>
<p>5.9 Check that 'No smoking' signs are displayed.</p>	<p>9. Signs not displayed.</p>		<p>HV / PV</p>
<p>5.10 Check for unpleasant odours within the vehicle.</p>	<p>10. Unacceptable smells.</p>		<p>HV / PV</p>
<p>5.11 Check that no metal grills are fitted on new vehicles. If fitted on older vehicles, ensure that no sharp edges or exposed parts may lead to injury to passengers or driver. (Metal grill must not prevent operation of privacy partition.</p>	<p>11. Loose or incorrectly fitted grill or exposed parts that may cause injury. Privacy partition obstructed.</p>		<p>HV / PV</p>
<p>5.12 Check a guard or restraint between passenger and luggage compartment is fitted to estate cars to prevent injury / damage.</p>	<p>12. Guard or restraint not fitted.</p>		<p>PV</p>
<p>5.13 Check that intercom systems (where there is a separate compartment for passengers) are capable of being switched off within the passenger compartment and that there are signs, clearly visible, explaining their use and how to switch them off. Check that light is visible when intercom is on.</p>	<p>13. Intercom system not clearly marked, no means of passengers isolating system easily. Warning light not working.</p>		<p>HV / PV</p>

<p>5.14 Check all door handles and grab rails for condition and security. Ensure childproof protection covers are in place and free of damage and held securely, if fitted. Grab handles to be high visibility & different colour from interior colour scheme.</p>	<p>14. Door handles, interior trims, mouldings, damaged, worn or insecure.</p> <p>None fitted or highlighted / same colour.</p>		<p>HV</p>
<p>5.15 Check condition of electrics to ensure routed correctly and pose no risk or hazard to passengers. Additional installations to original equipment shall be adequately insulated and protected by fuses.</p>	<p>15. Wiring not routed correctly, insecure, damaged, poses hazard or risk to passengers. Not insulated or fused.</p>	<p>All electrical wiring to be in good order and securely routed and not pose any risk to passengers; when going through panels the wiring must be protected by rubber grommets.</p>	<p>HV / PV</p>
<p>5.16 Check for non-slip treads on outer edge of floor at entrances.</p>	<p>16. Non-slip treads not fitted</p>		<p>HV</p>
<p>5.17 Check for approved reflective strips on front and rear edges of doors</p>	<p>17. Reflective strips not fitted</p>		<p>HV / PV</p>
<p>5.18 Check that occasional seats rise automatically when not in use.</p>	<p>18. Occasional seats failure to rise automatically.</p>		<p>HV / PV</p>
<p>5.19 Check that each row of seats available shall have door access immediately adjacent to it unless access of rows of seats is by way of permanent passageway from such a door.</p>	<p>19. No ease of access to row of seats</p>	<p>Any suitable seat situated behind the front passenger seats can be removed to comply with this requirement.</p>	<p>PV</p>

6. TAXI METERS			
6.1 Ensure that the taxi meter is positioned so it can be clearly seen from all passenger seats within the vehicle.	1. Absence of a taxi meter (HC only) Meter not suitably positioned within vehicle. If Private Hire, displaying "For Hire" on meter.	Private Hire vehicles are not required to have a meter fitted but when a meter is fitted it must comply with the specifications as set out on this sheet. New Hackney Carriages (or expired licences) must have a Meter Compliance Certificate. Testers must record the make, model and serial number on the compliance certificate.	HV / PV
6.2 Examine the taxi meter mounting to ensure it is secure.	2. Taxi meter that is not secure.		HV / PV
6.3. Check meter to ensure the figures indicating the fare are illuminated.	3. Lack of adequate illumination to the taxi meter display.		HV / PV
6.4 Check that a table of fares is displayed in the vehicle in a position where it can be clearly seen by passengers in the compartment. The table to be in the agreed format as laid down by the Council (HC only)	4. Failure to display a table of fares in the correct format and in a conspicuous position within the vehicle.		HV
6.5 Check all seals on meter and drives to meter are intact and how no signs of damage.	5. Seal and / or seals damaged or broken		HV / PV
7. TAXI SIGNS Hackney Carriages			
7.1 Check that roof mounted signs are properly illuminated. Ensure the sign is not damaged and lettering is clearly legible.	1. A sign that is not clearly legible when illuminated	The City Council's licence conditions require: A hackney carriage must be equipped with an illuminated sign on the roof of the vehicle bearing the word "TAXI" or must satisfy such other requirement as the Council may from time to time set, with the exception of other signs or indicators as required by Statute or Road Traffic Act. All other signs or notices are expressly prohibited."	HV

7.2	Ensure that the sign is securely fixed to the roof.	2. A sign that is not fixed to the vehicle.		HV
7.3	Ensure that the roof sign is connected to the meter switch so that when the meter is in "hire mode", the meter automatically extinguishes the signage.	3. The switching of the sign does not conform to Council's standards.		HV
7.4.	Check that there is no unauthorised signage.	4. A sign that does not comply with the Hackney Carriages conditions.	See Hackney Carriage Conditions.	HV
7.5	Check that if vehicle has sliding doors, "Doors Open" signs are fitted and are automatically illuminated when open.	5. "Doors Open" signs not fitted or not illuminated.	Applies to alternative type vehicles	HV
8.	SIGNS (PRIVATE HIRE)			
8.1	Ensure that any signs displayed do not include the word "TAXI" or "CAB" or "FOR HIRE"	Signs that include the word TAXI, CAB or FOR HIRE.	The proprietor of a private hire vehicle shall not display or suffer or permit to be displayed on a private hire vehicle any sign or notice which consists of or includes the word TAXI or CAB whether in the singular or plural or FOR HIRE or any word or words of similar meaning or appearances to any one of those words, whether alone or as part of another word.	PV
8.2	Ensure that on both rear passenger doors (upper half panel) there is displayed a notice approved by the council relating to the hire of the vehicle. Signs must not be magnetised.	2. No notices displayed. Magnetised signs	Vehicles shall have directly fixed on the upper half panel of the rear side passenger doors, permanent self adhesive vinyl notices as provided by the Authority. In respect of multi passenger vehicles (MPV's), the same signs shall be fixed directly on the rear near side passenger door and on the opposite panel on the offside of the vehicle.	PV

8.3 Ensure that no signs are displayed that have not been approved by the Council	3. Unauthorised signage	<p><i>Cars</i> Company (Operator) signs (not magnetised) shall be displayed on the two front doors (upper half panel in line with Authority signs). The maximum size shall be 770mm x 260mm. A sign may be displayed on the rear of the vehicle advertising the company but it shall not exceed 100mm in height and the telephone number should not exceed 75mm in height. A copy of any proposed company sign shall be forwarded to the Licensing Section for approval.</p>	
continued		<p><i>MPV's</i> Company (Operator) signs (not magnetised) shall be displayed on the two front doors (upper half panel in line with Authority signs) of private hire vehicles. Signs may be displayed on the rear of the vehicle advertising the company (but not the window). A copy of any proposed company signage shall be forwarded to the Licensing Section who shall approve by vehicle make and model, signage parameters in proportion to the design of each vehicle.</p> <p><i>Other (Large) Vehicles</i> The Authority shall approve, by vehicle make and model, signage parameters in proportion to the design of each vehicle. Company (Operator) signs (not magnetised) shall be displayed on the two front doors (upper half panel in line with Council signs).</p>	PV
8.4 Ensure that no roof sign is fitted	4. Roof sign fitted		PV

9. UNDERSIDE OF VEHICLE			
9.1 Check for excess corrosion / damage that does not fall within the prescribed area as set out in the MOT tester's manual.	1. Evidence of excess corrosion / damage to underside of vehicle.		HV / PV
9.2 Check for wear on any mounting that does not fall within the scope of the MOT tester's manual.	2. Worn or damaged mountings.		HV / PV
10. LICENCE PLATES			
10.1 Inspect the licence plates (front and rear) to ensure that they are securely fixed to the rear exterior of the vehicle.	1. A plate that is not fixed securely or is not in a prominent position.		HV / PV
10.2 Check to ensure that the licence plate is clearly legible.	1. A plate that is not clearly legible		HV / PV
10.3 Approved holder must be displayed for badge and internal plate on internal screen for HV & in a position where it can be seen by all passengers in a PV.	2. Holder not displayed or displayed in a place where it cannot be seen		HV / PV
10.4 Check to ensure no other plates are displayed.	4. Plates not belonging to that vehicle.		HV / PV
11. WHEELCHAIR FACILITIES (HV) (PV WHERE APPLICABLE)			
11.1 Check condition of wheelchair restraints.	1. Wheelchair restraints worn or damaged.		HV / PV

11.2	Check operation of wheelchair restraints.	2. Wheelchair restraints not functioning correctly		HV / PV
11.3	Check operation and condition of disabled person's seatbelt.	3. Seatbelt worn, frayed or damaged.		HV / PV
11.4	Check the ramps are securely installed in the boot of the vehicle. (If applicable to type of vehicle).	3. Ramps not secure in boot.	Hackney carriages (TX type) which have built in ramp should have an extension in the boot.	HV / PV
11.5	Examine the ramps for any damage, sharp edges or corners.	4. Ramps in poor condition or damaged or sharp edges showing.		HV / PV
11.6	Check as applicable, the non-slip provision and locating dowel pins are free of any damage.	6. Non-slip provision worn or damaged, worn or missing		HV / PV
11.7.	If fitted with wheelchair lift, check LOLER Certificate.	7. Certificate not produced		HV / PV
11.8	If lift fitted, check there is a guide for safe loading and security of wheelchair / disabled passengers.	8. No guide		HV / PV
12.	DANGEROUS PARTS / DEFECTS			
12.1	Check for dangerous parts / defects.	1. Dangerous parts/ defects	If in the testers opinion there is a defect which is a danger to the vehicles occupants or other road users.	

13. FUEL SYSTEMS			
13.1 Check device for fuel supply cut off. Manually operated device to have location & means of operation and "off" position clearly marked on outside of vehicle. No markings required on automatic inertia fuel cut off.	1. No fuel cut off No markings		HV / PV
13.2 Check for written authority for Gas fuel conversion	2. No written authority		HV / PV
13.3 Check that all LPG & CNG complies with legislation.	3. Non compliance		HV / PV
13.4 Check for compliance with LPG Associations, Auto gas installations Codes of Practice.	4. Non compliance		HV / PV
13.5 Check that CNG complies with NG Vehicle design & installation of vehicle fuel system component guidelines.	5. None Compliance		HV / PV
13.6 Check for that Certificate of Installation is shall be provided at test.	6. No certificate of installation		HV / PV
13.7 Check exhaust emissions and issue test certificate.	7. No exhaust emissions certificate.		HV / PV
13.8 If no spare wheel is carried, driver must provide evidence of subscription to tyre / replacement or vehicle agency.	8. No evidence of subscription.		HV / PV

13.9	Check run of fuel pipe.	9. Fuel pipe(s) which run immediately adjacent or in direct contact with electrical wiring or exhaust system.		HV / PV
13.10	Check fuel cap.	10. Temporary or emergency fuel caps.		HV / PV
13.11	Check exhaust for heat shield	11. Heat shield missing, insecure or inadequate.		HV / PV
14.	CCTV SYSTEMS (Where fitted)			
14.1	Check equipment is not likely to cause danger. Sign must be displayed.	1. CCTV Equipment likely to cause danger or sign not displayed.		HV / PV
15.	TRAILERS & ROOF CARRIERS			
15.1	Check that trailer complies with towing weights and provide secure and weather proof storage for luggage.	1. Trailer overweight. Storage not secure of weatherproof.		PV
15.2	Roof carrier must be of type fitted to the guttering or roof rails provided by manufacturer	2. Not correct type or roof rails not fitted by manufacturer.		PV
16.	ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS			
16.1	Check that speedometer is fitted and in working order.	1. Not fitted, inoperative, dial glass broken or missing or cannot be illuminated.		HV / PV

16.2 Check transmission	2. Loose or missing flange bolt(s) Cracked or insecure flanges. Excessive wear in shaft bearing. Bearing housing insecure. Cracked or fractured bearing housing. Excessive wear in universal joint. Deterioration of a flexible mounting of a bearing housing. Evidence of fouling between any transmission shaft and adjacent component.		HV / PV
17. ADDITIONAL ITEMS IN LIMOUSINES			
17.1 Check fixtures and fittings.	1. Loose, insecure fixture or fittings. Walk ways blocked.		PV LIMO
17.2 Check signs.	2. Maximum seating capacity sign not displayed or clearly visible.		PV LIMO
17.3 Check VIN number.	3. Not compliant with guidance.		PV LIMO
17.4 Check seating capacity (See V5c)	4. Exceeds 8 passenger seats.		PV LIMO
17.5 Check for stresses due to additional weight.	5. On Steering, brakes and tyres.		PV LIMO
17.6 Check tyres for compliance with guidance.	6. Tyres not compliant with guidance.		PV LIMO