



Taxi Driver Identifiers

Your personal badge identifiers are enclosed with this guidance document. Please read this document carefully as it provides you with further information regarding the details shown on the identifiers, practical information on where to affix them in your vehicle and advice regarding their use.

As a licensed taxi driver you are required to wear a green (All London) or a yellow (suburban) badge and carry your paper licence 'bill' with you at all times when you are working.

Like your badge, the identifiers are either green or yellow and they show your badge number and, for suburban licence holders, details of the exact area for which you are licensed. You should treat the identifiers in the same way as you treat your badge. This includes:

- always displaying them when you are working; and
- removing them from your taxi when you are not using it.

This is especially important when taxis are shared as the identifiers relate to the driver not the vehicle.

Please remember that these identifiers are not, in themselves, proof that you are licensed and are not a substitute for either your badge or licence. If you are asked to provide proof that you are licensed, for example by a police officer, TfL compliance officer, taxi proprietor, etc., you must still produce your licence and show your badge.

TfL has now issued a Cab Order to implement the measure which comes into force on 1 March 2012. From that date you will be required to display the identifiers as a condition of your driver's licence. Failure to do so, or displaying identifiers that bear a different number to your badge, will be a breach of paragraph 28A of the London Cab Order 1934 (as amended by the new Cab Order). If the breach is repeated then TfL has the power to take disciplinary action to suspend or revoke your taxi driver's licence.

Please take the time to read these guidelines carefully.

Guidelines for use

The identifiers are designed to encourage compliance by drivers, including plying for hire within their licensed area.

Under no circumstances should any driver confront a colleague who they suspect is plying for hire outside of their licensed area.

TfL expects all licensed taxi drivers to act in a professional manner at all times and you should not confront another driver suspected of plying for hire outside his or her licensed area. If you do, such action may require TfL to take disciplinary action against you including potential revocation or suspension where action is serious or repeated.

All drivers should be aware that there are a number of reasons why suburban drivers may be in central London or another suburban sector. This includes:

- Dropping off fares that started in their sector but ended outside it;
- Picking up fares that were pre-booked when the driver was in his sector;
- The driver is licensed for one of the two extension areas;
- The driver is plying for hire at a designated 'island rank'. There are currently six designated island ranks:
 - Finsbury Park Bus Station – Haringey drivers
 - Garratt Lane (Arndale), Wandsworth – Merton and Sutton drivers
 - Garrett Lane (Sainsbury's), Wandsworth – Merton and Sutton drivers
 - Mitcham Road (Tooting Broadway Station) – Merton and Sutton drivers without the Clapham extension
 - Wimbledon Park Road (Southfields Station) – Merton and Sutton drivers
 - High Street, Putney - Richmond upon Thames drivers

The boundaries of some suburban boroughs (e.g. Brent, Lewisham) are less than four miles from Charing Cross. All London drivers are therefore advised to be aware of the borough boundaries and where suburban drivers can legitimately ply for hire.

However, suburban drivers are reminded that plying for hire outside of their licence area is a breach of the conditions of their licence. Any driver convicted, cautioned or found to have committed this offence through compliance activity will be the subject of disciplinary action which could lead to the suspension or ultimately revocation of their licence.

If you do witness a driver who may be plying for hire outside of his or her licence area, you will be able to report this to TfL. It is intended that any such reports will be used to identify future intelligence operations and no specific action will be taken against an individual driver as a result of one report from another driver.

Should a driver come to the attention of TfL on more than one occasion, further investigation is likely to take place.

Licence Areas

As well as clearly indicating whether a driver is an All London or suburban taxi driver, the identifiers will specify suburban drivers' exact licence areas. Due to the wide ranging combination of licence areas for suburban drivers, this information is set out in codes rather than listing the specific areas by name.

Please check that the information on your identifiers is correct. If it's not, contact London Taxi and Private Hire immediately.

Sectors	Sector Code
Enfield, Haringey, Waltham Forest	S1
Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Newham, Redbridge	S2
Bexley, Greenwich, Lewisham	S3
Bromley	S4
Croydon	S5
Merton, Sutton	S6
Hounslow, Kingston upon Thames, Richmond upon Thames	S7
Ealing, Hillingdon	S8
Barnet, Brent, Harrow	S9

Boroughs	Code
Enfield	ED
Haringey	HY
Waltham Forest	WM
Redbridge	RE
Newham	NM
Barking & Dagenham	BG
Havering	HG
Lewisham	LM
Greenwich	GH
Bexley	BY
Bromley	BR

Boroughs	Code
Croydon	CN
Sutton	SN
Merton	MN
Kingston upon Thames	KN
Richmond upon Thames	RD
Hounslow	HW
Ealing	EG
Hillingdon	HN
Brent	BT
Harrow	HA
Barnet	BA

Extensions	Extension Code
Clapham, Balham and Tooting	E1
Hackney	E2

Using the codes above, here are some examples of how different licence areas would be shown:

Enfield, Haringey, Waltham Forest

Sector	Borough	Extension
S1	-	-

Kingston upon Thames, Richmond upon Thames

Sector	Borough	Extension
-	KN RD	-

Merton, Sutton, Clapham Extension

Sector	Borough	Extension
S6	-	E1

Hounslow, Kingston, Richmond, Ealing, Hillingdon

Sector	Borough	Extension
S7 S8	-	-

Croydon, Merton, Sutton, Kingston,
Richmond

Sector	Borough	Extension
S5 S6	KN RD	-

Bromley, Croydon, Lewisham

Sector	Borough	Extension
S4 S5	LM	-

Displaying the Identifiers

We recognise that there are many different occasions where you do not use one taxi, maybe through renting or perhaps an All London and a suburban taxi driver share a vehicle. For this reason, the identifiers are supplied with clear plastic sleeves which should be affixed to the inside of the window, with the sleeve opening facing toward the offside of the vehicle. The identifiers can then be inserted in the sleeve and removed easily.

The identifiers should be displayed in the top nearside (kerbside) corner of both the front and rear windows as illustrated below:

Front



Rear



When affixing the identifiers you should take into account the guidelines for displaying stickers and signs to your taxi which can be found on the TfL website at www.tfl.gov.uk/tph.

Replacement identifiers

If your identifiers are lost, stolen or damaged to the extent that they are no longer usable you must inform London Taxi and Private Hire immediately. A form for this purpose is available on the 'Lost badge or licence' page of the TfL website. Replacements will then be sent to you by Recorded Delivery.

Replacement identifiers will be issued automatically if you are issued with a replacement badge.

If lost identifiers are subsequently found they must be returned to London Taxi and Private Hire.