



Taxi Trade Coronavirus (COVID-19) Advice



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Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Advice for Private hire/Hackney carriage drivers/Operators

We recognise that the taxi trades may have concerns regarding the possible implications of the outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19) which started in Wuhan, China.

HM Government and NHS public information provides useful advice on how to slow the spread of the virus. This is largely the same advice to slow the spread of other germs including flu and general coughs and colds.

Based on current evidence, COVID-19 presents with flu-like symptoms including:

- cough
- difficulty breathing
- a fever (feeling hot or feverish or as measured by a doctor or nurse)

The current evidence is that most cases appear to be mild. The majority of those that have died in the current outbreak appear to have had pre-existing health conditions or have had weakened immune systems.

There is currently no vaccine for coronavirus but there are things you can do to help stop coronavirus spreading.

Public Health England (PHE) recommends that the following general cold and flu precautions are taken to help prevent people from catching and spreading COVID-19:

- Always carry tissues and use them to catch coughs and sneezes;
- Dispose of used tissues in the bin as soon as possible;
- Wash hands with soap and water, or use sanitiser gel, to kill germs.

We advise all taxi and private hire drivers, to follow these simple and sensible steps at all times and particularly in the wake of the outbreak of Coronavirus. We would also encourage you to take sensible and routine precautionary measures such as cleaning surfaces regularly with sanitising wipes or spray to get rid of germs. As ever, taxi drivers should consider regularly cleaning card payment devices, steering wheel, handbrake, door handles etc.

Public Health England is the lead agency and is providing regularly updated information for the public on the outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in China, including the current situation in the UK and information about the virus and its symptoms.

You can access the most up-to-date information here: www.gov.uk/coronavirus

If you are worried about the Coronavirus (COVID-19), have a cough, temperature or shortness of breath and have been in physical contact with someone from an affected area then the NHS advises you to:

- Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu
- Call NHS 111

We would expect all private hire operators to fully cooperate with any enquiries they may receive from Public Health England or any other relevant agencies.

Whilst the above advice is current at the time of writing, please regularly check the Public Health England website and Government / NHS websites for updated information.

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