

Emma McHugh

From: Licensing
Sent: 21 September 2021 11:27
To: Emma McHugh
Subject: FW: Tinted windows
Attachments: IMG-20210902-WA0042.jpg; IMG-20210902-WA0043.jpg; IMG-20210902-WA0044.jpg

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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From: .
Sent: 19 September 2021 11:28
To: Licensing <licensing.Mailbox@southderbyshire.gov.uk>
Subject: Tinted windows

To Members of licencing,

I am writing in regards to the condition in place for tinted windows on the back passenger windows of licensed vehicles in South Derbyshire.

I have previously written to the council regarding this matter as it was having an impact to myself regarding finding a vehicle without tinted windows.

Since then I have spoken to a large number of private hire drivers within South Derbyshire district council and all have concerns regarding finding newer vehicles to licence without tints.

I understand that having clear glass on the back passenger windows is a condition and until that condition is met a licence will not be issued.

The concern drivers have is finding an 8 year old vehicle of decent specification without factory fitted tinted windows is very hard. This is due to manufacturers making greener vehicles and having the back windows tinted as standard on a majority of vehicles.

The next concern is if a vehicle cannot be found without tints then the other option is to find windows to replace on the vehicle. Drivers have been replacing windows recently but this is getting harder and harder to find windows that are clear as most newer vehicles are coming with factory tint as standard so a clear glass window is not available or it has to be specially made.

The next concern is the cost of replacing the windows which ranges between £350 to £1000 dependent on the vehicle. Now drivers are not going to buy a decent vehicle costing around £8 - £10000 with factory fitted tints to then go and change the windows on it. I myself have 2 sets of tinted glass windows from different vehicles just sitting at home as both vehicles that I bought had tints and had to be replaced. This also wastes time for drivers to go and find a vehicle or find windows.

New laws have also come in to place regarding ULEZ vehicles and cleaner air zones. It is difficult to find a euro6 vehicle without tinted back windows.

According to the NHPTA a question was asked to all police forces within the UK regarding safety and risk with tinted windows.

"Has the fact that a vehicle has tinted windows ever been considered to be a factor in any taxi or private hire related incident?"

The answer from all police forces was a resounding ***"No, tinted windows have never been considered to have any bearing at all in any taxi or private hire related incidents"***.

If you think about it at night when drivers are driving and at their busiest a police officer or council officer would not be able to see inside the vehicle whether it has tints or not as it is too dark.

The other issue councils have raised is safeguarding of children and school contracts. The answer to this is that the drivers go through an enhanced db's check every year. They also attend courses regarding safeguarding to allow schools/parents to feel safe with their children.

There have been cases in the past regarding children and drivers security but that has no relation to tinted windows. A sincere driver is not going to spend all this time and money just to go against the law.

Manufacturers are moving towards greener cleaner vehicles. Councils are moving towards greener cleaner air zones. Manufacturers have stated that tinted windows:

1. Reduce UV rays and therefore improve passenger health and safety
2. Reduce the level of light passing through rear windows bringing down glare and therefore improving passenger comfort.
3. Reduce the amount of sunlight passing through rear windows lowering the heat within the vehicle, which then reduces the use of air conditioning which in turn improves fuel economy reducing fuel emissions.

Drivers are already having to incur massive costs just to get the vehicle on the road and make sure it is compliant. Vehicle needs to be less than 8 years old, the cost of the vehicle licence, the insurance cost. This extra cost of tinted windows just adds a burden to drivers.

Please, we are requesting as licenced private hire drivers that we are supported in this time of financial burden. If the condition could be changed to just allow manufacturer fitted tints on vehicles and not after market. This will help the drivers to find cleaner greener vehicles easily and comply with national regulations.

Attached is a petition of private hire drivers within South Derbyshire District Council who have raised concerns and are worried when coming to change their vehicles.

I look forward to hearing from you with a positive outcome

Thank you on behalf of all drivers

Name	NO - Badge	Company	Sign
[REDACTED]	176	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	PHD030	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	056	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	036	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	240	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	043	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	005	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	266	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	037	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	384	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	033 105	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	088	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	0328	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	D306	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	267	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	390	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	051	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	082	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	220	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	246	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	200	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	124	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	302	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	185	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	357	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	200	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	371	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	070	ICARS LTD	[REDACTED]

name	badgeno	company	signature
[redacted]	131	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	099	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	017	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	041	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	197	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	347	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	134	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	132	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	275	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]		ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	236	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	252	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	035	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	123	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	127	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	193	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]		ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	186	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]		ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	0114	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]		ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	335	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	383	ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]		ALPHA CARS	[redacted]
[redacted]	172	ALPHA	[redacted]

name	badgeno	company	signature
[REDACTED]	272	I CARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	245	I CARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	215	I CARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	182	I CARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	377	I CARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	373	I CARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	149	VILLAGE CARS	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	271	VILLAGE CARS	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	068	LOCAL CARS	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	282	LOCAL CARS	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	190	LOCAL CARS	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	195	LOCAL CARS	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	013	I CARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	178	I CARS LTD	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	295	CHELLASTON CARS	[REDACTED]