

CHECK YOUR VEHICLE BEFORE EVERY INSPECTION!

Last month, 20% of inspections resulted in a fail. Most fails could have been avoided by taking the time to check these items in advance of inspection and allowing time for any necessary repairs/replacements.

NTA has a 'Passing the Inspection Checklist' which can be found on the forms and guides section of the NTA website.



TOP 10 FAILS

1. Cleanliness, Doors and Window Operation
2. First Aid Kit
3. Insurance Certificate Check
4. Taxi Door Branding
5. Taximeter
6. Fire Extinguisher
7. Old Tamper Proofs
8. Roof Sign Light
9. High Viz Vest
10. Warning Triangle

BOOK YOUR VEHICLE LICENCE RENEWAL EARLY – NO PENALTY!

Remember, even if your vehicle is inspected early, your new licence period will start from the date of expiry of your old licence, so there is no disadvantage to early inspection.

NTA cannot guarantee you an inspection if you leave it too late, so utilise your 60 day renewal window to get a date and centre of your choice.

NEW CARRIAGE OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Dublin Carriage Office no longer operates a 'walk in' or telephone service. Anyone who wishes to submit an application or speak to someone about their application or licence must submit a request for an appointment via email. Attendance will be by appointment.

Appointments can be made by emailing the Carriage Office at:
CarriageOffice.DMR@Garda.ie.

BOOK YOUR METER SEAL APPOINTMENT ONLINE

LMS have advised us that from June 17th taxi drivers will have the option to book and pay for their taximeter verification online at www.legalmetrology.ie. Payment for your inspection is taken at the time of booking through a secure payment service provider and a receipt will be issued by email.



RESPECT CAMPAIGN



NTA's new campaign encourages customers to treat taxi drivers with respect. The objective of the campaign is to engender a more positive working environment for drivers.

Anne Graham, NTA CEO said: "The new awareness campaign highlights the fact that taxi drivers are not simply people who provide a vital service to the public. They are also our neighbours, our friends, our family, and members of our communities, and as such deserve respect."

YOU WON'T BELIEVE WHAT SOME PEOPLE CALL TAXI DRIVERS



GUIDE DOGS, ASSISTANCE DOGS AND MOBILITY AIDS



You must carry guide dogs, assistance dogs and mobility aids for passengers who need them, at no extra charge. It is an offence to refuse to carry a guide dog or any assistance dog. Some tips for picking up a customer who is blind or vision impaired:

- Ask if they would like some help getting into the car. Walk up to the person and stop at their right hand side (the Guide Dog or Assistance Dog will always walk on their owner's left side)
- Push back the passenger seat as far as it will go, so that the Guide Dog or Assistance Dog has plenty of room to curl up in the passenger seat foot well next to their owner
- Communicate with the passenger and let them know how far away the door is. Let the person know if they are stepping on to or off kerbs, or steps
- Look at them and speak to them directly



- During the journey drive smoothly. Keep in mind that it may take your passenger longer to find the fare at the end of the journey
- Remember, guide dogs are working dogs, so do not be tempted to distract them – do not pet or feed them

ACCESSIBLE VEHICLES



HOW CAN YOU GET THE GRANT?

- ✓ Read the information guide and terms and conditions for WAV Grant Scheme 2019 on our website: www.nationaltransport.ie
- ✓ Get several insurance quotes for SPSV use for the carriage of passengers for reward for the proposed type of licence, i.e. wheelchair accessible SPSV services
- ✓ Research available vehicles that meet the required standards and age, see Information Guide G1 (Applying for a new SPSV licence) or G6 (Changing a vehicle) available on our website

SCHEME REQUIREMENTS:

- ✓ have and maintain tax cleared status
- ✓ no prosecutions or complaints upheld in the last 24 months
- ✓ attend disability awareness training course
- ✓ ensure that the proposed vehicle complies with the standards
- ✓ be the registered owner of the proposed vehicle
- ✓ complete and return journey documents to NTA at regular intervals

WAV GRANT COMPLIANCE

WAV Grant Terms and Conditions include that the recipient shall:

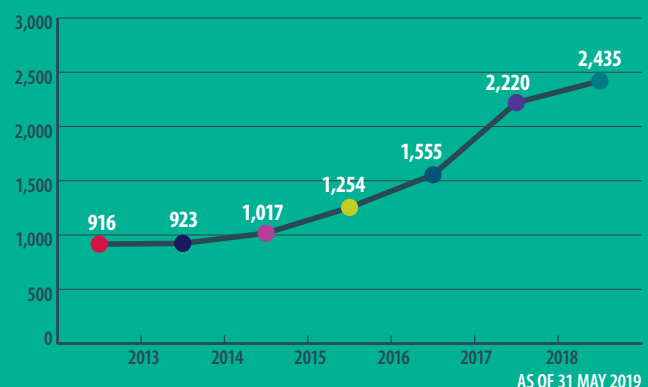
- ✓ Make the wheelchair accessible SPSV available for the purpose of providing the specific services
- ✓ Ensure that any driver holds a valid SPSV licence, is affiliated to or employed by a licenced dispatch operator and has attended a Disability Awareness Training course
- ✓ Give priority to persons with disabilities, including those who wish to travel in a wheelchair
- ✓ Keep a record of all bookings and make it available to the NTA

WAV FLEET

There are now 2,435 Wheelchair accessible small public service vehicles – which equates to 12% of the SPSV fleet. This is an increase of 200% over five years, with total numbers as low as 850 in June 2014.

- April 2014 – regulations changed to allow smaller WAVs into the fleet.
- July 2014 – introduction of a WAV Grant scheme, assisting licence holders to purchase a WAV

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF WAV IN FLEET



ELECTRIC SPSV GRANT SCHEME



Jackie Holmes and his electric wheelchair accessible hackney

A FEW WORDS FROM JACKIE

“This is my new Eco friendly, zero emissions ENV200 wheelchair access vehicle -the very first in Europe to be used as a hackney vehicle.

I’m 40 years in the hackney business and buying this electric vehicle was one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. I have it 6 months and I’ve been able to seriously cut down on fuel consumption, which not only helps me to do my bit for the environment, but also saves money. With careful planning I have been able to get up to 300 miles a day!

I transport kidney dialysis patients from all over Inishowen to Letterkenny University Hospital, 7 days a week. If this vehicle works in the hills of Donegal then it’ll work anywhere in Ireland.

I want to thank the National Transport Authority for their support! They’ve been a fantastic help to me. I’m looking forward to the government’s investment in the infrastructure required for fast chargers throughout Ireland.

There should be one fast charger in every major town in Ireland, and then we’ll see the increase in purchases of electric vehicles.

Here’s to a greener, cleaner environment for us all!”

The electric SPSV grant scheme applies to:

- ✓ new WAV licences;
- ✓ new limousine licences;
- ✓ replacement of currently licensed WAVs; and
- ✓ replacement of standard vehicles on all current licences



COMMENDATIONS

Congratulations!
The below drivers have received commendations from their passengers:

- ★ L6172 Amir Waqas
- ★ E2626 Francis Reynolds
- ★ H3060 Edward A Behan
- ★ L9224 Haroon Rasheed
- ★ J8015 Gregory Dale
- ★ J1483 Alan Waldron
- ★ L1551 Bashir Ahmed Adio
- ★ L2310 Olalekan Raufu Folami
- ★ J8362 Gerard Ryan