

Taxi/Private Hire Driver Application Checklist

Designed to make the application process easier in helping you collate your evidence to apply

*This is not the application form



Updated: June 2026

A yellow, illuminated private hire sign with the words "PRIVATE HIRE" in bold, black, sans-serif capital letters. To the right of the text is a small black silhouette of a car.

**PRIVATE
HIRE**

Licensing
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West Oxfordshire District Council
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WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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General Introduction

Use this checklist to help collate the evidence and information you need to support in making a successful taxi/private hire driver application.

This is NOT the application form and this document does not need to be sent to us as part of your application.

Follow this checklist in order. It's likely you will be waiting for items to come through to you, so continue to the next step, as you wait.

Remember to come back and complete this checklist when information comes in to you.

The checklist is designed to help you prepare to complete a full application form and gather the evidence and documents you need to send to us.

You can also open our website as a guide as you go, as this document refers to many parts of our site to support with further guidance. <https://westoxon.gov.uk/taxilicensing>



Right to Work in UK

Valid date?

Valid for the period stated on your documentation

I will confirm my right to work in the UK.

I have the legal right to work in the UK and my proof is:

UK passport

Right to Work Passcode

Please go to [Right to Work](#) in our step-by-step guide on our website to see what proof you need to hold.

Advice: your right to work will be checked at the final interview with the Licensing Officer. DO NOT continue to make an application for a taxi/private hire driver licence with West Oxfordshire District Council if you don't have evidence of the right to work in the UK. Your application must be refused by the Licensing Officer.



Criminal Record Status

Valid date?

All convictions must be disclosed

I will confirm my criminal record:

- I have no convictions
- I have convictions and I will list below in date order:

Offence	Date of Conviction	Court	Sentence

Please go to [Criminal Record Status](#) in our step-by-step guide on our website to see the information you must give if you have convictions.

Advice: Depending on the type nature and date of your convictions, you may still be able to apply for a taxi/private hire licence in our area.

All convictions must be disclosed - there are no 'spent convictions' in the case of taxi/private hire drivers. This is because of the nature of the work and a highly important aspect of public protection.



The Knowledge Test

Valid date?
Valid for 6 months

Please go to [Book your Knowledge Test and Find Out How to Prepare Well](#) in our Step-by-Step Guide on our website to see how to book and pay for a knowledge test. It will also explain what to bring to your test, how to change a booked test and when you will get your results.

I have booked and paid for a knowledge test with West Oxfordshire District Council for:

- Private hire knowledge test
- Dual test (Hackney Carriage (Taxi) and Private Hire knowledge test)

Date of First attempt at Knowledge Test	Outcome
	Pass / Fail

Receipt Number.....

Date of Second attempt at Knowledge Test	Outcome
	Pass / Fail

Receipt Number.....

If you failed your Knowledge Test on your second attempt, you are unable to retake a test until 6 months have passed. Make a note of when this is.

Earliest date to rebook a knowledge test:

We do not advise moving forward with other checks because your DBS check and medical checks are valid for a limited time.



Medical and Vision Assessments

Valid date?
Valid for 4 months

Please go to [Book your Medical and Vision Assessments - Fit to Drive](#) in our Step-by-Step Guide on our website to see how to prove you are fit to drive the public.

I have booked an **informal** appointment with my GP to discuss any medical issues which may affect my medical examination report and ability to declare fitness to drive on:

Date / Time / Location:

I have booked and paid for a medical examination report assessment with:

- My GP with access to my full medical history
- OR a recognised company for an assessment, who have access to my full medical history
- Medical examination report assessment and Vision Assessment at same event
- Medical examination report assessment
- Vision examination report assessment (with an optician or ophthalmologist)

Dates / Times / Locations:

Assessment Type	Date of Assessment	Outcomes: Fit to Drive / Unfit to Drive (Include any action you will take to resolve reasons for a fail: vision correction / course of medication before reassessment)
Medical		
Vision		

Advice: There are number of items to take with you:

- Remember to also take the **Medical Declaration Form for West Oxfordshire District Council** for the Medical Practitioner to sign at the time of your assessment
If you wear glasses or contact lenses when driving, wear them to the assessment.
- Take a copy of your prescription for vision correction to the assessment.
- You will need an ID to show the person carrying out your assessment.



Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Check & Update Service

Valid date?
Must be continuously maintained

Please go to [Request an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Check & Join the DBS Update Service](#) in our Step by Step Guide in our website to prove you are a fit and proper person to drive members of the public.

I have signed up to and have paid for an **Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Check**:

You will need the following from us:

Organisation Reference: COTSWOLD
Organisation Code: council

Date applied:	Date of confirmation:	Code:
Certificate Number:		

You must also apply to sign up to the DBS update service when you make an application for a taxi/private hire driver's licence. We recommend that you do this at the same time as requesting your check. It is a requirement that your DBS status is in place at all times and if you let your DBS lapse your licence will be revoked.

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Enhanced Criminal Convictions certificate must be continuously maintained as 'Valid' to operate as a taxi/private hire driver. Once your certificate has been issued, you have 30 days to allocate your certificate to the DBS update service.

I have joined the **Disclosure and Barring Update Service**.

Date applied:	Date of confirmation:	Code:
Payment card used: (last 4 digits of long number)	Expiry date:	

Advice: make sure that the payment card you use to set up your DBS update service has fund to pay for the update.



Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency Your UK Driving Licence

Valid date?
Min. of 12 month
experience

Please go to [Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency - Your UK Driving Licence](#) in our step-by-step Guide on our website to see the information you must give about your driving licence.

I can confirm that I have held a full UK driving licence for 12 months or more.

- Yes
- No (unfortunately, you are unable to continue with your application at this time)

I can confirm that I have fewer than 6 penalty points on my licence.

- Yes
- No (unfortunately, you are unable to continue with your application at this time)

My driving licence shows my current home address

- Yes
- No (You must get the address on your licence updated.)

I have my DVLA licence check number:

DVLA Licence check number:



Safeguarding Training Course

Valid date?
At discretion of Licensing
Officer

Please go to [Book a Safeguarding Course](#) in our step by Step Guide on our website to see the information on how to book a course.

I have booked a place on a Safeguarding Training Course recognised by West Oxfordshire District Council (currently our recognised provider is Oxfordshire County Council's online course).

- Yes
- No (unfortunately, you are unable to continue with your application at this time)

Course Date:

Certificate Information:



Taxi/Private Hire Driving Assessment Test

Valid date?
At discretion of Licensing Officer

Please go to [Book a Taxi Driving Assessment Test](#) in our step-by-step guide on our website to see what you need to do to prove you are able to drive at the standard required for a taxi/private hire driver.

I have booked a place on a Taxi/Private Hire Driving Assessment Test with a West Oxfordshire District Council recognised provider.

- Yes
- No (unfortunately, you are unable to continue with your application at this time)

Course Date:	Certificate Information:
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Know Your Tax Responsibilities as a Taxi/Private Hire Driver

Please go to [Know Your Tax Responsibilities as a Taxi Driver](#) in our step-by-step guide on our website to see the information you must make yourself aware of about your tax responsibilities.

I can confirm that I have read the information on the requirements to show how I arrange to pay tax on my earnings as a licensed taxi/private hire driver. I know that I will be expected to provide this information on the date of my renewal of licence.

- Yes, I have read this information on

Advice: You must put into place arrangements to pay your tax on earnings from the start of your trading, this will be required when you renew your licence. It is a statutory requirement placed on us as an authorising body to check this. Your licence will be revoked if you cannot prove your tax paid on earnings. Please be aware that this will be in place from April 2022 for all new and existing licensed taxi/private hire drivers.



National Register of Refusals, Revocations and Suspensions (NR3S)

Please go to the National [Register of Refusals and Revocations \(NR3\)](#) in our step by Step Guide on our website to see the information you must make yourself aware of about the NR3 register.

I can confirm that I have read the information on the National Register of Refusals and Revocations (NR3). I am aware that West Oxfordshire District Council will check this register to see if I have been refused a licence in another local authority or had my licence to drive a taxi/private hire revoked by another authority.

I am aware that if a match is found West Oxfordshire District Council will contact this authority. I am also aware that my details will be entered onto the NR3 register if my licence is revoked or I am refused a new licence or at the time of renewal.

I am aware that only selective information about me will be stored on the NR3 and this entry is held for 25 years.

- Yes, I read this information on



English Proficiency

Valid date?
At discretion of Licensing Officer

Please go to [Evidence of English Proficiency](#) in our step by Step Guide on our website to see the information you must give about your spoken English.

I am aware that I am required to show I have proficiency in spoken English and this is a requirement under our policy of granting Taxi/private hire Driver Licensing in West Oxfordshire District Council. I can provide evidence with a:

- GCSE (or equivalent) in a subject such as English Language or Literature.
- A degree in a subject containing substantial English content
- An NVQ or BTEC in a subject that requires its students to communicate well in English

If you are unable to provide any of the above, you can use evidence from an:

- English Proficiency Test (you will need to book, pay for and pass a test)

Course Date:	Course Provider:
Certificate Information:	

Your checklist information is now complete

Please go to [The Taxi/Private Hire Driver Licence Application Form](#). All your information will help you to complete your application form quickly and accurately for the first time. The website also gives you essential information on what to include with your application form and options on how to get your form to us.

There is also a section [What happens now your Application is with us?](#). This explains what happens to your application and when you are likely to hear from us.

Finally, there is a section which shows what you can expect to receive when your licence is granted. [What to expect when your Licence is Granted](#)

Keep your checklist information safe, you will want to refer to the information you have collected here when you come to renew your licence in a year's time. Having all your information in one place will save you time.

If you would like to give feedback on how you found using this checklist, please send your comments by email to: ERS@Publicagroup.uk



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