

# Changes for taxi, private hire or scrap metal licence Renewal applications from April 2022

Please find below important information from HMRC regarding new tax checks required for all renewal applications for Taxi and Private Hire Drivers and operators, and for Scrap metal collectors and site licences, which come into force for **all renewal applications made on or after 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022**. Please note that this refers to the date the renewal is submitted, rather than when it is due. Renewal Application forms sent out to all relevant parties for April 2022 renewals onwards will have a new section added for drivers, operators and scrap metal collectors/site operators to complete with the required 9 character tax check code so that the licencing authority can confirm you have carried out a tax check.

**PLEASE NOTE You will not be granted a licence if you do not give a tax check code to the licensing authority.**

To be clear, the tax code does not give the licensing authority access to your tax records or personal tax history. The code simply allows the licensing authority to confirm to HMRC that you have submitted evidence that you are properly registered for tax.'

What you'll need to do to meet new rules if you're applying to renew a taxi, private hire or scrap metal licence on or after 4 April 2022.

## What's changing

The rules are changing if you're an individual, company or any type of partnership applying to renew a licence for a:

- taxi driver
- private hire driver
- private hire vehicle operator
- scrap metal site
- scrap metal collector

If you make an application on or after 4 April 2022 you'll need to complete a tax check if you're:

- renewing a licence
- applying for the same type of licence you previously held, that ceased being valid less than a year ago
- applying for the same type of licence you already hold with another licensing authority

You must carry out the tax check yourself. You cannot ask a tax agent or adviser to do this on your behalf.

The tax check will ask questions about how you pay any tax that may be due on income you earn from your licensed trade.

After you have completed the tax check you will be given a 9-character tax check code.

You will need to give the code on your application to the licensing authority, so they can confirm you have carried out a tax check.

You will not be granted a licence if you do not give a tax check code to your licensing authority.

Guidance about how to complete a tax check will be published in January 2022.

## **What you should do before April 2022**

### **Get a Government Gateway user ID and password**

You will need a Government Gateway user ID and password to complete a tax check, so you should make sure you have one before you need to make your licence application.

If you do not have a user ID, you can create one by [registering for HMRC online services](#).

### **Check your HMRC records are up to date**

You can check your details are up to date when you get a Government Gateway user ID, or by [signing in to HMRC Online Services](#).

If your details need updating, you can tell us about a change to your:

- [personal details](#)
- [business](#)

### **Find out if you must pay tax on your earnings from your licensed trade if you're not already registered with HMRC**

Check if you:

- must [send a Self Assessment tax return](#) if you're self-employed or in a partnership.
- need to register for [Corporation Tax](#) if you operate a company

If you only pay tax through [PAYE](#) you do not need to check your records.