Protective Screens in Licensed Vehicles

The Council is supportive of licensees installing protective partition screens in licensed vehicles. However, all installations must be carried out safely and screens should be professionally manufactured, and installations must not compromise the effectiveness of the factory fitted vehicle safety systems such as air bags or visibility.

Each licensee will need to specifically request permission to install a screen and all requests must contain a photograph of the intended screen and the licensee will be required to provide the information detailed below to allow an informed decision to be made based on the merits of the application.

All licensees should provide the following information

- Assurance that a product is compliant with government and industry regulations, for example the Road Vehicle (Construction and Use) Regulations and relevant safety, UK and European Community (EC) legislation.
- Evidence that the product has been tested to relevant EU standards and approved by appropriate certification organisation.
- Directions about how screens should be fitted, for example by a professional in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Specification of what screens should be constructed of, for example PETG (Polyethylene Terephthalate Glycol-modified) or polycarbonate.
- That screens do not impede the driver's vision, movement, or communication with passengers, or the driver or passenger access or egress to the vehicle.
- Insurers should be notified of any modifications made to the vehicle.
- Confirmation from the manufacturer that the installation does not compromise the integrity of the vehicle's structure and safety features
- Details of a hygiene regime in place to ensure that any fitted partition screen is cleaned and sanitised after every journey taken to prevent cross contamination and further spread of infection.

Once all the information above has been provided then provided it is satisfactory permission will be granted on an 'each case on its merits' basis.

Partition screens should NOT be fitted unless formal permission has been sought from the Council and all the relevant information has been provided.

Vehicles that are fitted with partition screens without first obtaining permission are liable to have the vehicle licence immediately suspended.

Please note no permissions will be granted unless all the required information is provided by the licensee.

Please send all requests for permission to <u>licensing@bathnes.gov.uk</u>