

## Temporary Protective Screens- Covid 19 Situation

In light of the COVID-19 virus and the impact it is having on the licensed trade, Lewes and Eastbourne Council's Licensing team are happy to work with the trade to enable as many drivers possible to continue working throughout the outbreak, assisting where possible to mitigate the risks to drivers and passengers of inadvertently contracting the virus.

In response to requests from the trade, asking if it is acceptable to install a protective screen **in-between** the rear passenger compartment and the driver, Lewes and Eastbourne Licensing Authorities are happy to permit, as a temporary measure, the installation of a protective screen.

### The protective screen:

- **Must not** be permanently installed in the vehicle
- **Must be** fitted in such a way so as to ensure no interference with any manufacturer fitted safety devices/features on the vehicle
- **Must be** fitted in such a way so as not to affect the structural integrity of the vehicle
- **Must be** a type of screen that has passed (or will pass) an MOT.
- **Must be** fitted by someone who is insured and trained to do so.

The film/sheet used **MUST** be clear and a transparent screen.

### Process to be followed when wishing to fit a temporary screen

If any driver wishes to fit a temporary, protective screen in their licensed vehicle they **MUST FIRST**:

- Notify the Licensing Team of their intention to fit a protective screen by emailing [vst@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk](mailto:vst@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk) together with;
- A photograph/picture to show how the screen is expected to fit within the vehicle to ensure the quality of the product.
- An agreement to remove the protective screen within a maximum of **21 days** after the current social distancing restrictions relating to COVID-19 have been removed.
- The drivers are responsible for notifying their insurance company that a screen has been installed.

**If your vehicle has already been fitted with a protective screen please send an email along with a picture of the screen to [vst@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk](mailto:vst@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk)**

The Council is aware that there are a number of protective screen options on the market which are not expensive to purchase. These when fitted, may give peace of mind to the driver and customer alike during this health crisis. It is hoped that by approving such low cost **temporary** measures drivers will be able to choose to

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purchase these screen protectors if they so wish. This may provide at least some reassurance that they can continue to work but in a safer working environment.