

Transport for London
London Taxi and Private Hire



**National Fraud Initiative
Important Information for Taxi & Private Hire Drivers**

As part of the 2010 National Fraud Initiative (NFI) data matching exercise, Transport for London (TfL) is required by law to release information about licensed taxi and private hire vehicle (PHV) drivers to the Audit Commission. In October 2010 we will provide the Audit Commission with the name, address, date of birth and National Insurance number (if available) of every licensed taxi and PHV driver.

Since 1996 the Audit Commission has run the NFI, an exercise that matches electronic data within and between audited bodies to prevent and detect fraud. This includes police authorities, local probation boards and fire and rescue authorities as well as local councils. Further information about the NFI is available on the Audit Commission's website at www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nfi.

Data matching involves comparing computer records held by one body against other computer records held by the same or another body to see how far they match. This is usually personal information. Computerised data matching allows potentially fraudulent claims and payments to be identified. Where a match is found it indicates that there is an inconsistency which requires further investigation. No assumption can be made as to whether there is fraud, error or other explanation until an investigation is carried out.

The use of data by the Audit Commission in the data matching exercise is carried out with statutory authority under its powers in Part 2A of the Audit Commission Act 1998. It does not require the consent of the individuals concerned under the Data Protection Act 1998. Data matching by the Audit Commission is subject to a Code of Practice which can be found at: www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nfi/pages/codeofdatamatchingpractice.aspx.

Further information on the Audit Commission's legal powers and the reasons why it matches particular information can be found on the Audit Commission's website at www.audit-commission.gov.uk/fairprocessing.

Data Security

TfL considers the security of data as very important and will ensure that the data is transferred securely to the Audit Commission.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Mason".

John Mason
Director, Taxi and Private Hire

19 August 2010
For previous Notices visit tfl.gov.uk/tpH