

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE DIRECT VISION STANDARD AND HGV SAFETY PERMIT



ROMERO
INSURANCE BROKERS

From 26th October 2020, all goods vehicles over 12 tonnes will require a permit to drive into Greater London. This includes vehicles from outside of the UK.

Enforced by Transport for London (TfL), the legislation is the first of its kind and forms part of the Vision Zero Action Plan. Vision Zero is a strategy aiming to eradicate deaths and serious injuries from London's transport network by 2041.



WHAT IS THE DIRECT VISION STANDARD AND HGV SAFETY PERMIT?

[Applying for a HGV Safety Permit](#) is free of charge, and will demonstrate that a vehicle meets the minimum Direct Vision Standard (DVS) requirements.

DVS is based on a 'star rating', measuring how much a driver can see from their cab windows in relation to other road users (and thus indicates the level of risk).

The vehicle manufacturer will issue a star rating between 0-5 for your vehicle. This rating is based on how the vehicle left the production line and will not take into account any aftermarket safety systems that have been fitted.

Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) that do not meet the minimum requirement of one star need to comply with the Safe System which requires the installation of extra devices for indirect vision (similar to FORS & CLOCS specifications). Complying with the Safe System will not alter the vehicle's star rating but it will permit you to drive into Greater London. It's worth noting that by 2024 DVS minimum star requirements will increase to three stars.

HOW WILL THE SCHEME BE ENFORCED?

The scheme will be implemented by a decriminalised Traffic Regulation Order, meaning a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) can be issued. Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras will detect a vehicle which will be checked with TfL's permit database.

Operators and hauliers without a valid permit may be issued a PCN of £550 and £130 for the driver, even if the vehicle is five star rated, every time the vehicle enters Greater London.

ARE THERE ANY OTHER CHANGES?

Low Emission Zone (LEZ) emissions standards will change on 26th October 2020 too. HGVs will need to meet Euro VI (NOx and PM) emissions standards or alternatively must pay a charge each day to drive in London.

How can I find out more?

Visit the TfL website and review their [HGV safety permit guidance](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SPEAK TO OUR DEDICATED RISK MANAGEMENT TEAM

Visit romeroinsurance.co.uk

Or call us on 0113 281 8110