

Tinted window consultation comments.

Appendix 'B'

From	Option	COMMENTS
HC/PH Driver	A	
HC/PH Driver	A	All new cars have dark windows
PH Operator	A	No change to tinted windows & I don't like The very dark windows at all, you can't see what's Going on etc.
PH Operator	A	My suggestion is to allow any shade tint on rear side and rear window and a lighter tint on front side windows
Public	B	
Public	B	
HC/PH Driver	B	
Other	B	
HC/PH Driver	C	The legislation on tinted windows throughout a vehicle should be adhered to and passengers should not be demanding that a vehicle is illegal by having darker tinted windows. If "Privacy Glass" is fitted as new then that must also comply with the regulations and should be permitted. I don't think that any passenger is going to decline being taken in a car because of the intensity of the tint, and if they do, then they are not worth the problem.
HC/PH Driver	C	
HC/PH Driver	C	
HC/PH Driver	C	
Public	C	I struggle to see any real requirement/need for taxis to be fitted with privacy / tinted windows. Apart from the abuse concerns (which I believe are still valid). I am also concerned with road safety issues due to the reduced ability to see through vehicles. This particularly applies to taxis which often(temporarily park) in 'inconvenient places to pitch up or drop-off passengers. An example being –whilst emerging from a minor road onto another road and not being able to see approaching vehicles due to parked vehicles (or see pedestrians behind vehicles).
PH Operator	C	
Public	C	
Public	C	I can see absolutely no justification for having any sort of tinting, other than might reasonably shield from sunlight so long as it is legal in terms of the road traffic acts, any more than on a bus or train. Personally, I think it is more a style issue. If the current policy was introduced to enhance passenger safety, unless there is some new evidence that this has <u>reduced</u> safety, then I can see .no reason to change it.
Public	C	Anything that makes things safer for passengers, whether children or adults, should be maintained. I see no reason for tinted windows at all, I think it's a kind of status symbol, and is a bit creepy. It doesn't allow the driver to be identified if a crime has

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		been committed.
Public	C	Personally I think anything other than a basic tint is not only unpleasant for the passenger it is a driving hazard for the driver as it allows less visibility of the surroundings, particularly if the side and back windows are even moderately tinted. Manufacturer only choose to put them in so that they can make a bigger profit. Untinted windows can actually be fitted as standard on the low priced ranges (at least with Ford they can). Perhaps drivers should not aim for such high specs.
Public	C	I am a driver with a disability and can only drive an MPV type vehicle and I've not found one yet without Privacy Glass.
Public	C	
Public	C	I don't know why we are discussing it, They shouldn't be tinted at all, Haven't we learnt anything from Rotherham, Oxford, Telford, Etc,Etc,Etc
Royal Holloway University of London	C	Our student body are currently on vacation but following discussions with a small number of students and the SU it was felt that the current policy – restricting the use of darker tinted windows – still represents the safest option for passengers and offers then a feeling of security when using Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles.
Surrey Police Inspector for Runnymede Neighbourhoods team.	C	<p>I have considered Runnymede Borough Council's current policy of all rear windows must allow at least 70% of light to be transmitted through them.</p> <p>In short, the current policy means that hackney carriage and private hire vehicles cannot have rear heavily tinted "privacy" windows. The basis for this restriction is for public safety. The current regulations reduce the possibility of sexual abuse involving a number of hackney carriage or private hire drivers.</p> <p>It is recognised that the current policy may involve an additional cost for operators. Apart from the cost of removing any non-compliant glass, drivers must also receive mandatory safeguarding training in order to be licenced.</p> <p>My own view is that the balance of cost against public safety and benefit is satisfied with the current arrangements.</p> <p>Practical considerations include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An operator may be less likely to infringe on licensing seating restrictions if the number of seats can be clearly seen. 2. Heavily tinted glass will prevent enforcement officers including Police officers from carrying out a quick visual check without stopping the vehicle. During enforcement exercises common practice has always been to, wherever possible, stop vehicles when empty to minimize inconvenience to passengers. This could be frustrated by the use of heavily tinted glass .

		<p>3. Hackney carriage and private hire vehicles provide a service to the public. Passengers should be comfortable with the fact that the vehicle they are about to enter is fit for purpose. Some passengers, particular vulnerable passengers, will feel safer if they can be seen from the outside of the vehicle.</p> <p>4. General Safety. There are occasions where it is in the interests of the drivers or passengers to be on full view. Some passengers will behave unreasonably and unlawfully and the availability of a view from outside the vehicle may help to reduce unacceptable behaviour. Incidents that could compromise the safety of the driver or passengers may not be seen from outside the vehicle. In the event of an accident clear visibility may assist the Emergency services.</p> <p>5. Hackney carriage and private hire vehicles may be used to facilitate offences such as: drugs distribution (including "County Lines"), Child Sexual Exploitation, Modern Slavery and other criminal activity where the victim is too vulnerable and afraid to seek help. Often reports by the public are especially useful in indicating persons who are potentially at risk. By heavily tinting windows, the chance of being observed as a victim or perpetrator of crime is reduced significantly.</p> <p>To change the policy to allow darker rear tinted windows could increase threat and risk both to passengers and drivers. I believe that Runnymede Borough Council is upholding responsible and effective standards to the benefit of service users and also the drivers themselves.</p> <p>I consequently conclude that the current policy is effective and proportionate and support Option C - Make no change to the current policy.</p>
HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	Any vehicle that passes its MOT should not be subjected to such a ridiculous test, manufactures have been fitting tinted glass for years who are RMC to say no to tinted glass after all the main purpose is to help with eye strain.
HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	Due to the impending safeguarding training for all HC/PH drivers, I don't believe that this requirement is necessary
HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	

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HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	
HC/PH Driver	D	Allow manufactured tinted windows
PH Operator	D	Provided they pass an MOT and have been factory fitted.