Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Private Hire Car (PHC) Matters

(a) Change in PHC Periodic Inspection Regime

What are the changes in the periodic inspection regime for Private Hire Cars (PHCs)?

From 1 January 2021, as part of new safety requirements in the new Point-to-Point (P2P) regulatory framework, all Private Hire Cars (PHCs) will have to undergo annual inspections. This is to ensure vehicles maintain roadworthiness and emission standards. Previously, PHCs were only required to undergo a periodic inspection from the third year after registration and every two years thereafter. For PHCs that are more than 10 years old, there is no change as they already have to be inspected annually.

2. Why is there a change in periodic inspection regime for Private Hire Cars (PHCs)?

Private Hire Cars (PHCs) provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services for the public. More regular inspections are to better protect the safety of drivers, commuters, and other road users.

- 3. What are the items that will be checked during the Private Hire Car (PHC) periodic inspection? The inspection items for Private Hire Cars (PHCs) are identical to that of the periodic inspection for private cars. In addition, the tamper-evident PHC decals will also be inspected to ensure that they have not been tampered with. Please click here for more details.
- 4. What is the cost of a periodic inspection for Private Hire Cars (PHCs)?

Each <u>LTA-Authorised Inspection Centre</u> (AIC) sets its own periodic inspection fees for Private Hire Cars (PHCs). You can find more information at the websites of the AICs at <u>www.jic.com.sg</u>, <u>www.stai.com.sg</u>, or <u>www.vicom.com.sg</u>.

5. Do I need to bring any documents along with me for my Private Hire Car (PHC) periodic inspection?

You need not bring along any document for your Private Hire Car (PHC) periodic inspection. You will receive a Notice of Inspection from LTA three months before your periodic inspection is due, but you do not need to bring it along for the inspection.

6. Do I have to make an appointment to go for my Private Hire Car (PHC) periodic inspection?

Booking an appointment for Private Hire Car (PHC) periodic inspection is not necessary. Vehicle owners may wish to check with the respective <u>LTA-Authorised Inspection Centres</u> (AICs) for their operating hours, and are encouraged to avoid the peak hours, i.e. 11:00am to 2:00pm from Mondays to Saturdays.

7. What happens if my Private Hire Car (PHC) fails the periodic inspection?

If your Private Hire Car (PHC) fails the periodic inspection, you will be required to rectify any failed items on your PHC and pass the re-inspection before you are able to renew the vehicle's road tax. A separate fee will be charged for re-inspection. For more details on re-inspection fees, please refer to the websites of the <u>LTA-Authorised Inspection Centres</u> (AICs) at <u>www.jic.com.sg</u>, <u>www.stai.com.sg</u>, or <u>www.vicom.com.sg</u>.

8. I am a taxi driver who uses some Private Hire Car (PHC) platforms (e.g. Grab, Gojek etc.) to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services. Will the new periodic inspection regime for PHCs be applied to my taxi?

There is no change to the periodic inspection regime for taxis, which are required to undergo periodic inspection once every six months.

(b) Introduction of PHC Inward Conversion Inspection

9. What is the Private Hire Car (PHC) inward conversion inspection?

From 1 January 2021, all cars converting to chauffeured Private Hire Cars (PHCs) will be required to undergo an inward conversion inspection to ensure the vehicle meets roadworthiness and emission standards. The car must pass this inspection before you can complete the vehicle scheme conversion online at www.onemotoring.lta.gov.sg.

10. Why is there a need for the car to be inspected before it is converted to a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

The introduction of the inward conversion inspection for chauffeured Private Hire Cars (PHCs) ensures that vehicles are roadworthy before they are allowed to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services. This is part of the new safety requirements introduced together with the new P2P regulatory framework to protect the safety and interests of commuters and drivers.

11. How do I convert my car into a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

Please refer to Annex A for the steps to take to convert your car into a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC).

12. My car passed its periodic inspection recently. Does my car need to go for a Private Hire Car (PHC) inward conversion inspection if I want to convert it to a chauffeured PHC?

If your private car has passed the periodic inspection within three months before its conversion, you do not need to have it inspected again before converting it to a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC). You can proceed to convert your car to a PHC via www.onemotoring.lta.gov.sg.

13. I recently converted my car to a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) and the periodic inspection is due soon. Does my car need to go for that periodic inspection?

If your private car has passed the inward conversion inspection within three months before its periodic inspection due date, your next periodic inspection will be rescheduled. LTA will notify you about three months before your vehicle needs to be inspected again.

14. What are the items that will be inspected during the Private Hire Car (PHC) inward conversion inspection?

Please click <u>here</u> for more details on the items inspected during a Private Hire Car (PHC) conversion inspection.

15. What is the cost of an inward conversion inspection for a car to become a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

Each <u>LTA-Authorised Inspection Centre</u> (AIC) sets its own Private Hire Car (PHC) inward conversion inspection fees. For more information, you can refer to the websites of the AICs at <u>www.jic.com.sg</u>, <u>www.stai.com.sg</u>, or <u>www.vicom.com.sg</u>.

16. Where can I do the inward conversion inspection for a car to become a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

The inward conversion inspection to become a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) can be done at any <u>LTA-Authorised Inspection Centre</u> (AIC). Please click <u>here</u> to view the list of locations of the inspection centres. You can also visit their websites at <u>www.jic.com.sg</u>, <u>www.stai.com.sg</u>, or <u>www.vicom.com.sg</u>. You are encouraged to avoid peak hours, i.e. 11:00am to 2:00pm from Mondays to Saturdays.

17. Do I need to bring any documents along with me to the inward conversion inspection for my car to become a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

Motorists must bring along and present the Private Hire Car (PHC) inward conversion advisory to the inspection centre for the PHC inward conversion inspection. This advisory can be accessed from the e-Letter inbox on the OneMotoring dashboard after logging in to www.onemotoring.lta.gov.sg. Motorists who have opted to receive the hardcopy advisory must remember to bring it along for the inspection. On the day of inspection, motorists must inform the inspection centre during payment at the counters that the vehicle is being produced for PHC conversion inspection or risk being rejected for inspection.

18. Do I have to make an appointment to go for an inward conversion inspection for my car to become a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

Booking of an appointment is not necessary for an inward conversion inspection to become a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC). Vehicle owners may wish to check with the <u>LTA-Authorised Inspection Centres</u> (AICs) for their operating hours, and are encouraged to avoid the peak hours, i.e. 11:00am to 2:00pm from Mondays to Saturdays. You can visit their websites at <u>www.jic.com.sg</u>, <u>www.stai.com.sg</u>, or <u>www.vicom.com.sg</u> for more information.

19. What happens if my car fails the Private Hire Car (PHC) inward conversion inspection?

If your car fails the Private Hire Car (PHC) inward conversion inspection, you will need to rectify the failed items, and your car will be required to undergo and pass a re-inspection, should you wish to convert it into a PHC. A separate fee may be charged for re-inspection. For more details on re-inspection fees, please refer to the websites of the LTA-Authorised Inspection Centres (AICs) at www.jic.com.sg, <a href="https://www.vicom.com.sg.

20. What happens if I pass the inward conversion inspection for my car to become a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC), but decide not to complete the conversion process?

If you do not complete the vehicle scheme online conversion within three months of passing the Private Hire Car (PHC) inward inspection, you will be required to undergo and pass a new inward conversion inspection should you wish to convert your vehicle to a PHC later on. To convert your vehicle to a chauffeured PHC, you need to login to www.onemotoring.lta.gov.sg to complete the vehicle scheme online conversion within three months of passing the inspection. Thereafter, you need to bring your PHC to any LTA-Authorised Inspection Centre (AIC) to affix a pair of tamper-evident PHC decals on the front and back windscreens within three calendar days. Should you decide not to convert your vehicle to a PHC after completing the conversion inspection, your vehicle is still required to follow the regular inspection timeline for private vehicles.

21. I have completed and passed my Private Hire Car (PHC) inward conversion inspection. Can I convert my car immediately?

After you have completed and passed your Private Hire Car (PHC) inward conversion inspection, you are required to login as the vehicle owner to www.onemotoring.lta.gov.sg Digital Services > Convert Vehicle Type or Scheme to convert your vehicle to a chauffeured PHC. Thereafter, you are required to visit any LTA-Authorised Inspection Centre (AIC) to affix a pair of tamper-evident PHC decals on the front and back windscreens of your PHC within three calendar days from completing the vehicle scheme conversion online.

22. Once my car has passed the inward conversion inspection for my car to become a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC), am I allowed to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services immediately?

When your car has passed the Private Hire Car (PHC) inward conversion inspection, you must complete the conversion process before your vehicle can be licensed as a PHC to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services. To do so, the vehicle owner must login to www.onemotoring.lta.gov.sg Digital Services > Convert Vehicle Type or Scheme and complete the conversion, where a \$100 administrative fee will be charged. After that, you must produce your car at any LTA-Authorised Inspection Centre (AIC) to affix the tamper-evident PHC decals on the front and back windscreens of your PHC within three calendar days. For more information on inspection centres, you can visit their websites at www.jic.com.sg, www.stai.com.sg, or www.vicom.com.sg.

In addition, you are also required to procure adequate motor insurance and obtain a Private Hire Car Driver's Provisional Licence (PDVL) before you can provide P2P passenger transportation services.

23. I converted my car into a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) after passing the conversion inspection on 30 September 2024. My 12 months road tax is due for renewal on 30 June 2025 and I am required to send my vehicle for periodic inspection before road tax renewal can be allowed. Why do I have to go for periodic inspection again when my vehicle has not yet reached the 1-year cycle for periodic inspection?

With the implementation of the new Private Hire Car (PHC) inspection regime, a newly converted PHC would be required to go for periodic inspection between 9 to 15 months after its successful conversion. LTA will notify vehicle owners of the new periodic inspection date three months before the periodic inspection is due.

(c) Converting Out of PHC Scheme

24. How do I convert out of the chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) scheme?

To convert your vehicle out of the chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) scheme, please login to www.onemotoring.lta.gov.sg > Digital Services > Convert Vehicle Type or Scheme and complete the conversion. There will be a \$100 administrative fee for the conversion.

25. What do I need to do after I have converted my vehicle out of the chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) scheme?

After you have successfully converted your vehicle out of the chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) scheme, please remove and dispose of the two PHC decals on your vehicle's windscreens as they will no longer be valid. It is an offence for non-PHCs to display PHC decals on their windscreens.

26. My vehicle has been converted out of the chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) scheme and into the private car scheme. Now, I wish to convert my vehicle into the chauffeured PHC scheme again. Can I reuse the old pair of PHC decals?

Once the vehicle is converted out of the chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) scheme, its PHC decals are automatically invalidated. If you convert your vehicle into the chauffeured PHC scheme again, please ensure that a new pair of tamper-evident PHC decals are affixed on the vehicle's front and back windscreens at any <u>LTA-Authorised Inspection Centre</u> (AIC) within three calendar days from the date of conversion.

27. Will my Taxi Driver's Vocational Licence (TDVL) / Private Hire Car Driver's Vocational Licence (PDVL) be immediately cancelled if I convert my vehicle out of the chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) scheme?

Converting your vehicle out of the chauffeured PHC scheme will not affect the remaining validity period of your TDVL/PDVL. Your TDVL/PDVL will remain valid until its expiry date.

28. Will my chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) be automatically converted out of the chauffeured PHC scheme if I cancel my Taxi Driver's Vocational Licence (TDVL) / Private Hire Car Driver's Vocational Licence (PDVL)?

Cancelling your Taxi Driver's Vocational Licence (TDVL) / Private Hire Car Driver's Vocational Licence (PDVL) will not affect your vehicle's scheme.

29. I am a holder of a Taxi Driver's Vocational Licence (TDVL) / Private Hire Car Driver's Vocational Licence (PDVL) and a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) owner. I have cancelled my TDVL/PDVL as I do not wish to continue providing Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services. What will happen if I do not convert my vehicle out of the chauffeured PHC scheme?

Cancelling your Taxi Driver's Vocational Licence (TDVL) / Private Hire Car Driver's Vocational Licence (PDVL) will not affect your vehicle's scheme. If your vehicle remains in the chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) scheme, it will be subject to annual periodic inspections, which can be more frequent compared to a private car.

If you would like to stop providing Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services, you may like to convert your vehicle out of the chauffeured PHC scheme. To do so, please login to www.onemotoring.lta.gov.sg Digital Services > Convert Vehicle Type or Scheme and complete the conversion, where a \$100 administrative fee will be charged. After you have successfully converted your vehicle out of the chauffeured PHC scheme, please remove and dispose of the two PHC decals on your vehicle's windscreens. It is an offence for non-PHCs to display PHC decals on the windscreens.

(d) PHC Decals and Miscellaneous

- 30. Why am I unable to register my chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) with a PHC operator?

 If you are unable to register your chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) with a PHC operator, please get in touch with them directly to check if you meet their requirements.
- 31. The serial number of the Private Hire Car (PHC) decals affixed on my PHC is different from the one shown on the Vehicle Registration and Licensing System on OneMotoring. Why is that so?

If there is a discrepancy between the serial number on your Private Hire Car (PHC) decals and the serial number shown on the Vehicle Registration and Licensing System on OneMotoring, please check with the inspection centre where you had the PHC decals affixed.

32. I am not using my chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services for reward. Can I remove the PHC decals? Why does my PHC need to be affixed with the PHC decals?

All vehicles registered as chauffeured Private Hire Cars (PHCs) must display the PHC decals on their front and back windscreens at all times, regardless of what they are being used for at a particular point in time. The decals help PHCs to be easily identified. This facilitates enforcement against offences such as unregistered cars providing chauffeured services, or PHCs picking up passengers by street-hail.

It is an offence under the Road Traffic Act if PHCs fail to have the decals displayed on their windscreens. Those convicted for the first time may face a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months, or both. A second conviction may entail a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or both.

33. I currently own a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) that is used for providing Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services for reward. I am intending to buy a new car to continue providing Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services for reward. Can I transfer the PHC decals from my current PHC to my new vehicle?

The serial number on the Private Hire Car (PHC) decals are tagged to the vehicle number and cannot be transferred to another vehicle. If you register another vehicle as a chauffeured PHC to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services, a new set of decals will have to be affixed on that vehicle at an LTA-Authorised Inspection Centre (AIC).

34. What do I need to do to affix the Private Hire Car (PHC) decals on my vehicle?

You will need to have successfully converted your vehicle into the chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) scheme on OneMotoring before you proceed to any <u>LTA-Authorised Inspection Centre</u> (AIC) to have the decals affixed on your vehicle. Please refer to <u>Annex A</u> for the steps to take to convert your vehicle into a PHC.

35. What should I do if one or both of the Private Hire Car (PHC) decals on my chauffeured PHC are damaged/defaced/altered/faded?

You will need to bring your chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) to any <u>LTA-Authorised Inspection Centre</u> (AIC) and pay to have a new set of decals affixed. It is an offence under the Road Traffic Act if drivers continue using a PHC, for whatever purpose, with damaged/defaced/altered/faded decals. Those convicted for the first time may face a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months, or both. A second conviction may entail a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or both.

36. Can I do carpooling trips (e.g. GrabHitch) using a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

Drivers who hold a valid Taxi Driver's Vocational Licence (TDVL) or Private Hire Car Driver's Vocational Licence (PDVL) are allowed to use a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) to provide carpooling trips.

37. Do I need a valid Private Hire Car Driver's Vocational Licence (PDVL)/Taxi Driver's Vocational Licence (TDVL) to drive a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

Drivers who use a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services for reward must hold a valid Private Hire Car Driver's Vocational Licence (PDVL) or Taxi Driver's Vocational Licence (TDVL). A chauffeured PHC may also be used for personal or social purposes. If the chauffeured PHC is being used for personal or social purposes, the driver need not hold a PDVL/TDVL, but must hold a valid driving licence.

38. Can my family members use my chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

A chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) may be used for personal or social purposes. If your family member drives your chauffeured PHC for personal or social purposes, they must hold a valid driving licence, but need not hold a Private Hire Car Driver's Vocational Licence (PDVL) or Taxi Driver's Vocational Licence (TDVL). Drivers who use a chauffeured PHC to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services for reward must hold a valid PDVL/TDVL.

39. Do I have to register a business entity with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) in order to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services for reward using a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

Individuals are allowed to register and own a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC) under their own names to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services for reward, without having to register a business entity with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA). This is in line with ACRA's rules, which allow an individual to conduct business under their own name without having to register a business entity.

40. Can I register any type of car as a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)?

The Land Transport Authority (LTA) does not restrict the brand, make, or model of cars that can be registered as a chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC). However, certain PHC operators may impose their own restrictions on the type of vehicles they allow on their platforms. You may wish to get in touch with the operators directly to check their requirements .

Annex A: How to Convert Your Car to a Chauffeured Private Hire Car (PHC)

Login to OneMotoring > Digital Services > Convert Vehicle Type or Scheme and key in vehicle number



Has your vehicle passed a periodic/conversion inspection within the last 3 months?



Yes

Proceed to make a \$100 administrative fee payment and convert the vehicle scheme online

No



An error message will prompt you to access your conversion inspection advisory in the OneMotoring e-letter inbox



Bring your vehicle for conversion inspection at any AIC, show the conversion advisory, and pass the inspection



Login to OneMotoring > Digital Services > Convert Vehicle Type or Scheme and key in vehicle number



Proceed to make a \$100 administrative fee payment and convert the vehicle scheme online

After successful vehicle scheme online conversion, vehicles must be affixed with PHC decals on the front and back windscreens at any AIC within 3 calendar days. The driver of the vehicle must possess a Private Hire Car Driver's Vocational Licence (PDVL) to provide Point-to-Point (P2P) passenger transportation services. The vehicle must also possess valid motor insurance.