

 **RS CONNECT**

Direct Vision Standard (DVS) Information Pack



Direct Vision Standard



WHAT IS DIRECT VISION STANDARD (DVS)?

The Direct Vision Standard measures how much an HGV driver can see directly through their cab windows. This indicates the level of risk to vulnerable road users, such as people walking and cycling, near the vehicle.

The Direct Vision Standard and HGV safety permit for HGVs is part of the Mayor of London's vision Zero plan to eliminate all deaths and serious injuries on London's transport network by 2041.

The Direct Vision Standard has been developed in consultation with an expert panel of researchers, academics and representatives from the freight industry, Europe's foremost HGV manufacturers and regulatory bodies. TfL is also working with other European cities and the European Union to push for long-term improvements by mandating direct vision in EU vehicle design and safety regulations

ALL goods vehicles over 12 tonnes will require a permit to drive into the Greater London area, this includes vehicles registered from outside of the UK. To apply for the permit is free of charge but does require two photographs.

The legislation is based on what is termed a "Star rating" of the vehicle. This measures a driver's direct view through the windows of an HGV cab. This is catalogued as part of a star rating from zero (poor) to five (excellent). Every vehicle manufacturer will issue a star rating for your vehicle.

HGVs that do not meet the minimum requirement of one star will need to comply with the Safe System which requires the installation of certain additional devices as part of an indirect vision system. By complying with the Safe System will not alter the vehicle's overall star rating but will permit you to drive into the Greater London Area.

The duration of the HGV Safety Permit depends on whether the vehicle meets the minimum DVS requirements or if it was granted exemption to the Safe System.

Zero, one and two star vehicles with an approved Safe System will be granted a permit until October 2024 when the progressive system will be required.

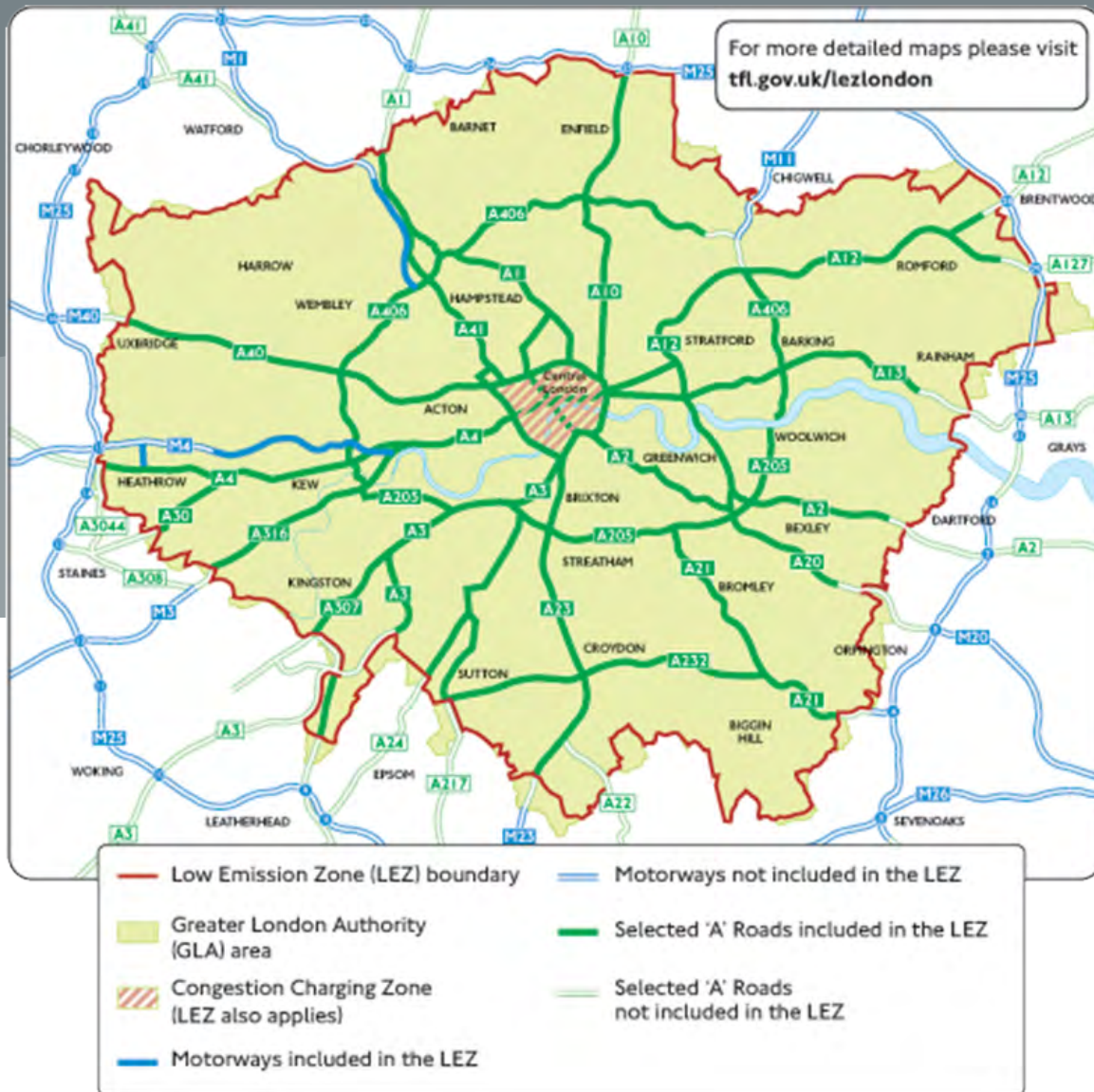
The Safe System will be reviewed and consulted on in 2022 and will take into account any additional technology or safety equipment not currently available.

Any new equipment or technology proposed for the Progressive Safe System must be retrofittable to HGVs, industry recognised and readily available on the market at the time.

From October 2024, HGVs rated below three stars will need to feature the Progressive Safe System.

Vehicles that have a Three, Four and Five star rating will be granted a 10 year permit.





Above is a map outlining the area covered by the Greater London Area. If any of your vehicle fleet enters the area illustrated above will need the DVS system to avoid fines.

ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

Once enforcement starts, if you drive an HGV within the Greater London area without a valid permit you may receive a penalty charge notice (PCN) of up to £550 (reduced to £275 if paid within 14 days). There is also a fine for the driver of £130. Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras will detect a vehicle which will be checked against the TfL database.

TfL can also revoke or suspend a permit if a vehicle that has been granted a permit is later found to be in breach of the permit terms. It is therefore important that the DVS Safe System is correctly installed as any element that does not comply could lead to a suspension of the permit. The side scan sensors must work even if the vehicle is not turning left. Even if the vehicle is rated as Five Stars it is imperative that a permit is applied for.



DO I REQUIRE A PERMIT?

HGV's with more than 12 tonnes gross vehicle weight will require a permit. This does not include cars, vans, buses or coaches

HOW DO I FIND OUT THE DIRECT VISION STAR RATING OF MY VEHICLE?

Check whether TfL holds a star rating for your vehicle by visiting

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/dvs-safety-permit-application/>

If the star rating is not available, then contact us for assistance.

If your vehicle is rated One, Two, Three, Four or Five stars then you can apply for a permit immediately.

THE SAFE SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

If your vehicle is rated as Zero Star you will need to fit additional safety equipment to comply with the Safe System. This includes the following elements:

- *Class V and VI mirrors*
- *Sideguards*
- *Camera monitoring system for the nearside*
- *Sensor system with driver alert left-turn audible alarm*
- *Warning signage*

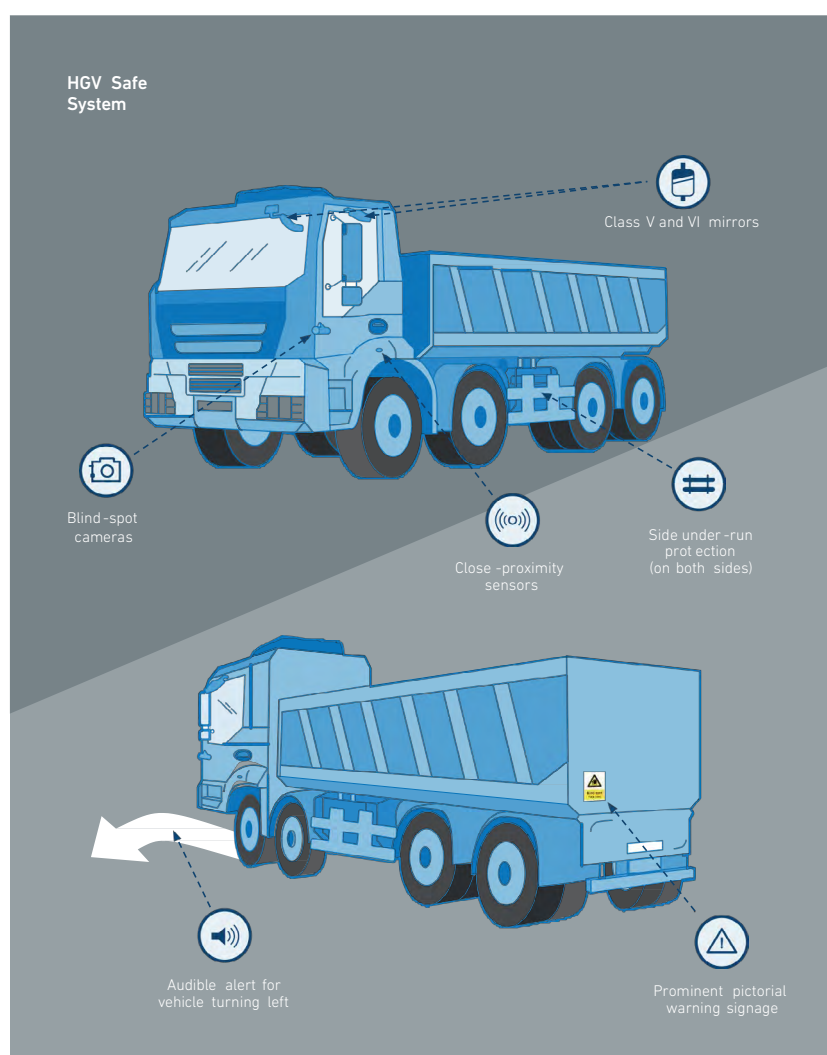
As soon as the system is fitted with the equipment you can apply for the permit.

PERMIT APPLICATION

HGV operators will need to apply for a permit for their vehicles.

The permit is free of charge and there is no requirement to display anything in the vehicle. To apply for a permit, you need access the following:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/dvs-safety-permit-application/>



VEHICLE EXEMPTIONS

Certain HGVs and vehicles may be fully or partially exempt. A list of vehicle exemptions and policy can be found in the

<http://content.tfl.gov.uk/hgv-safety-permit-guidance-for-operators-entering-london.pdf>

Fully exempt vehicles are not required to hold a permit, but you can still apply for one for your records.

Partially exempt vehicles include certain vehicle types which are exempt from specific Safe System requirements, as they make fitting of specific equipment impractical or impossible. Safety evidence photos must still be uploaded for these vehicles to show this, and they still must hold a valid permit.

PROGRESSIVE SAFE SYSTEM

The Safe System will be reviewed and consulted on in 2022 and will take into account any additional technology or safety equipment not currently available.

Any new equipment or technology proposed for the Progressive Safe System must be retrofittable to HGVs, industry recognised and readily available on the market at the time.

From October 2024, HGVs rated below three stars will need to feature the Progressive Safe System.

Direct Vision Standard and HGV Safety Permit Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-P20wdrcAQ&feature=youtu.be>

RULES FOR SAFETY EVIDENCE PHOTOS

If you've been asked to provide safety evidence as part of your application, you will need to upload two photos to show that a Safe System has been fitted to the vehicle.

Please read this guidance before uploading photos.

THE QUALITY OF YOUR PHOTOS

Your photos must be:

- *JPG or PNG files, no more than 10MB each*
- *Clear and in focus*
- *Colour (not black and white)*
- *An accurate picture of the vehicle*

WHAT YOUR PHOTOS MUST SHOW

Your photos must:

- *Clearly show the front and nearside (passenger side) of the HGV (Photo 1)*
- *Clearly show the rear and nearside (passenger side) of the HGV (Photo 2)*
- *Ensure the number plate (Vehicle Registration Mark) can be clearly read in both photos at the front (Photo 1) and rear (Photo 2) of the vehicle*
- *Provide evidence that the following safety features have been fitted to the vehicle:*
 - *Class V mirror (Photo 1: front and nearside)*
 - *Class VI mirror (Photo 1: front and nearside)*
 - *Side under-run protection (Photo 1 and 2)*
 - *Warning signage (Photo 2: rear and nearside)*

If your vehicle is partially exempt and not required to have specific safety features fitted, the photo should support the reason for exemption.



Class V mirror



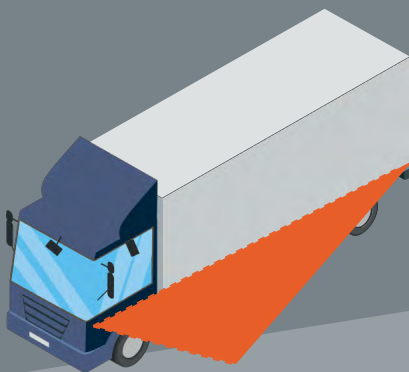
Class V mirror shall be fitted to the nearside of the vehicle

Class VI mirror



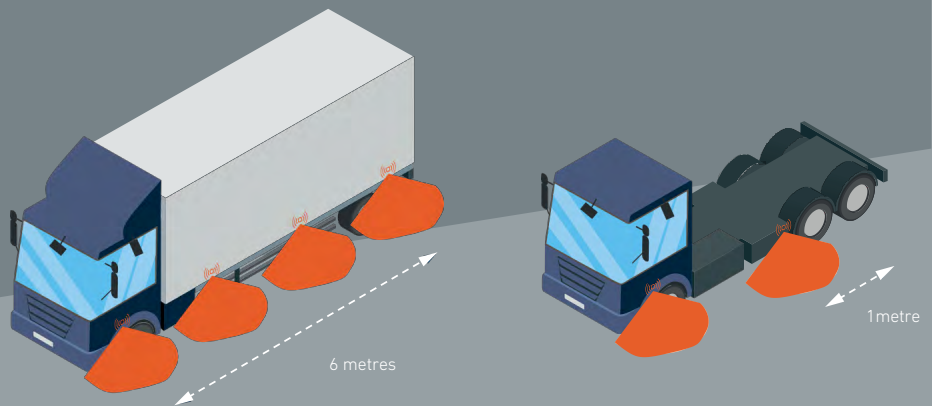
Class VI mirror shall be fitted to the front of the vehicle

Camera monitoring system



Camera monitoring systems must aim to completely eliminate or minimise the remaining vehicle blind spot at the nearside as far as is practical and possible.

Sensor system with driver alerts



It is recommended that sensors on rigid vehicles and articulated tractor units have coverage six metres down the nearside or one metre from the rear of the vehicle (or tractor unit), whichever is smaller.

RS CONNECT DVS SYSTEMS

RS Connect with extensive experience in supplying and installing DVS systems on a range of HGV vehicles are available to provide advice on what is needed to be compliant with the new regulations. The DVS systems including installation provided by RS Connect **start from £795 Ex VAT** per system. We can provide D1, HD or Full HD Blind Spot cameras as part of the DVS System.

Each RS Connect DVS Compliance Kit will consist of the following items:

- *Blind Spot Camera which can be D1, HD or Full HD*
- *7" Monitor*
- *4 Sensor Side Detection Kit with Buzzer*
- *Audible Alarm "This vehicle is turning left"*
- *Signal Indicator Switch (Tacho and Speed)*
- *Blindspot Signs*

After completion of the installation we will take the required photographs and forward them to the customer so that the permit can be easily applied for.



I HAVE A FORS BRONZE SYSTEM FITTED. DO I REQUIRE ANYTHING MORE?

For fleets that have FORS Bronze fitted, as a minimum you will require the following additional elements;

- *4 Sensor Side Detection Kit with Buzzer*
- *Audible Alarm "This vehicle is turning left"*
- *Signal Indicator Switch (Tacho and Speed)*

Cameras are not necessarily part of the FORS Bronze standard, but some may have them already fitted. If you have a FORS Bronze system fitted, please contact us for advice as to what would be required in addition to what has already been fitted to fully satisfy the DVS regulation.

For companies looking to have a FORS Silver system fitted or are looking to have a DVR system fitted at the same time, then please contact us for more information

sales@rsconnect.com or 01675 624 035

