



The Moray Council Licensing Authority

Guidance on the use of CCTV in taxis and private hire cars



There is no licence condition to say that CCTV in taxis or private hire cars is not allowed. Therefore each driver/operator is free to make his or her own decision in terms of the use of CCTV in a taxi.

However, this Licensing Authority would point out that there are obligations under the **Data Protection Act 1998** in relation to data protection.

It is important to note that the recording of images of people and sound amounts to personal data and an intrusion into the privacy of passengers. The Information Commissioner has therefore produced guidance on the use of CCTV. This is the link:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1542/cctv-code-of-practice.pdf>

There are a great many issues to consider; for example:

- (i) clear signage: customers must be made **aware** that CCTV is in operation and of what will happen to the data;
- (ii) there must be a legitimate **aim** (again, advised to customers)
- (iii) the CCTV must be set up to be the **least intrusive** means of achieving the aim e.g. sound recording is not recommended;
- (iv) the operator may have to **register** with the Information Commissioner as a data controller.

There are various providers of CCTV systems but we have no knowledge of them and cannot recommend a particular supplier. We assume that CCTV providers will give guidance on the use of CCTV and data protection.

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