



April 2025

Dear licensee

Suicide Awareness Training for Taxi and Private Hire Licensees in Greater Manchester

Why suicide awareness matters

Suicide prevention is 'everyone's business' and in Greater Manchester, our Shining a Light on Suicide campaign emphasises that you don't need to be a health professional to save a life.

In Greater Manchester we lose over 200 people to suicide each year. Every suicide is one too many and is a tragedy that has a devastating ripple effect amongst family, friends, colleagues and the wider community.

Your role in suicide prevention

As a taxi or private hire licensee, you have unique interactions with people across Greater Manchester, whether through longstanding customer relationships or brief encounters.

To highlight the importance of suicide prevention, licensing services and NHS Greater Manchester are raising awareness about a funded suicide awareness training opportunity available to all licensees. This initiative aims to positively impact the community and support the wellbeing of drivers and operators.

While the training is designed for taxi and private hire drivers, operators and proprietors are also encouraged to participate.

Free suicide awareness training:

This bespoke online course was developed by Zero Suicide Alliance (ZSA), a UK-based suicide awareness and prevention initiative hosted by Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust. **It is free, online and takes just 10 minutes with a certificate on completion.**

This training course aims to support drivers to:

- Understand suicide and its impacts
- Recognise signs that a passenger may be struggling
- Ask direct questions in a supportive way
- Have a conversation with someone in distress
- Signpost passengers to the right support services

Start the training today: www.zerosuicidealliance.com/suicide-training-taxi.



Greater Manchester

Act today

You play a vital role in our community, and by taking just **10 minutes** to complete this training, you could **help save a life**.

We strongly encourage all taxi and private hire drivers, operators, and proprietors to take advantage of this **free, life-saving training**.

Additional support

Consider downloading the **Hub of Hope app** (www.hubofhope.co.uk), a valuable tool, provided by national charity, Chasing the Stigma, to quickly find local and national mental health support for yourself or others.

If you or someone you know has been affected by suicide, no matter how long ago, support is available through the **Greater Manchester Bereavement Service** (www.greater-manchester-bereavement-service.org.uk).

By working together, we can create a safer, more supportive Greater Manchester.

For more information on suicide prevention efforts in our region, visit www.shiningalightonsuicide.org.uk.

Thank you for being part of this important initiative.

Kind regards,

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