

Communication



Government announces temporary removal of the D4 medical for licence renewals

20/04/2020

Government has temporarily relaxed the requirement for lorry drivers to provide a doctor's medical report in order to renew their licence.

Normally an application to renew a lorry or bus licence at age 45 or over must include a medical examination report (D4) which is signed by a doctor. However, NHS doctors are rightfully focused on Covid-19 and cannot carry out these examinations, so lorry and bus drivers are currently unable to obtain D4 medical reports required to support their application.

In response to this, Government is taking action to protect essential supply chains by making temporary provisions for commercial drivers aged 45 and over, to forgo the need for a D4 medical in order to renew their driving entitlement.

Drivers with health conditions will still need to declare these, and those with health conditions that prevent them from driving safely will not have their licence renewed.

Drivers will be able to receive a temporary one-year licence, providing;

- they do not have any existing notifiable health conditions
- their licence has expired after 1st January 2020

The licence will only be valid for 1 year instead of 5 years and the driver will need to submit a completed D4 when the licence is due for renewal in 12 months.

This will not affect applications for renewal of licences made by those aged 65 or over as these licences are already only valid for one year.

This does not apply to any application to renew small lorry (C1) and minibus (D1 (101)) entitlements included on car licences issued before 1997.

Any driver who has already obtained a D4 can still submit this with their application. A licence issued in such cases would be valid for the usual full term that applies.

More information can be found on Government website [here](#)