

Haulier vetting checklist

Run these checks before the first load, then keep the licence checks going for as long as the haulier works for you.

Facts checked against GOV.UK: 2 October 2026. Full guide: <https://haulierscope.co.uk/guides/vet-a-haulier>

#	Check	Where	How often	Red flag
☐ 1	Licence exists and the holder's name matches your contract	HaulierScope search or GOV.UK Find lorry or bus operators	Before first load, then weekly	Different name, or no licence found
☐ 2	Status is valid	Same	Weekly	Curtailed, suspended, or not in the latest DVSA file
☐ 3	Licence type fits the work	Same	Weekly	Restricted licence; standard national for international hire or reward
☐ 4	Vehicles and trailers authorised cover the work	Same	Monthly	Fewer vehicles authorised than lorries working for you; no trailers authorised
☐ 5	Operating centre is where they say they are based	Same	Monthly	Depot in a different area from the one you visit
☐ 6	A transport manager is named on a standard licence	Ask the haulier; check the name in Applications and Decisions	Before first load	None named
☐ 7	Company is active and filing on time	Companies House	Before first load, then alerts	Overdue accounts, insolvency notices, very recent incorporation with no history
☐ 8	Goods-in-transit, motor and public liability insurance	Certificates from the haulier	At each renewal	Cover below your load values; certificate in a different name
☐ 9	Trading references	Two or three current customers	Before first load	References refuse to confirm, or all are new
☐ 10	Contract terms: subcontracting, payment, claims	Your contract	Yearly	Haulier may re-subcontract your loads without telling you