

Hackney Carriage Vehicle Policy

Hackney Carriage Wheel Chair Accessible Vehicle Specification

Vehicles will not generally be accepted for hackney carriage licensing unless they comply with the following specification in addition to the other policy expectations on age and other criteria;

Wheelchair Accessibility

1. On the grant of any new vehicle licence the vehicle shall be capable of conveying a passenger using a wheelchair and benefit from ECWVTA (i.e. constructed as a purpose built taxi). The applicant must produce the appropriate documentation to evidence ECWVTA at time of application.
2. The vehicle should be both accessible and comfortable.
3. In considering whether the vehicle meets this expectation the Council will have regard to the design and quality standards attached as Appendix A.

Explanatory notes

Applicants are strongly discouraged from committing to expenditure in vehicles which do not comply with policy given adverse impact of refusal.

Appendix A – Hackney carriage Cab Accessible Design Standards

Hackney Cab Accessible Design Regulations			
		Requirement – minimum unless otherwise stated	Review Status
1	Clear opening width of nearside or rear passenger door	Unobstructed width 850mm with 900mm preferred	
2	Internal door height	1300mm	
3	Internal roof to floor height	Floor – door lintel 1320mm	Must be reviewed at least biannually to achieve recommended target of 1625mm
4	External Floor (at interval level) to ground height	540mm (maximum)	Must be reviewed at least biannually to achieve recommended target of 380mm maximum
5	Grab handles: Position and number e.g. Door and post, height from floor	Above door lock at 830mm-910mm above floor level. Second handle must be on the door opposite the other grab handle e.g. attached to the bulkhead	
6	Grab handles contrasted in colour	Should be yellow or primary contrast colour	
7	Side and/or rear loading for wheelchair passengers	Can be either or both but must comply with Design Regulations	
8	Wheel chair passenger facing front or rear	Should always face to the rear of cab unless using rear loading system	
9	Wheelchair restraints fitted	Must have tested restraint system fitted	
10	Wheelchair passenger seat belt fitted and type	3 point i.e. includes lap and diagonal restraint belt	
11	Seat height from floor	380mm	Must be reviewed at least biannually to achieve recommended target of 450
12	Space for wheelchair measures – L x W	1200mm x 800mm	Must be reviewed at least biannually to achieve recommended target of 1300mm x 1340mm
13	Non slip floor surface	Rubberised or non-slip vinyl	
14	Sufficient additional luggage space	Any removal of seating must still allow for luggage storage	
15	Taxi meter visible from rear passenger seat	Display must be clearly visible facing forward	Future consideration must be given to additional display for passengers facing to the rear and to audible