

Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council

Approved Vehicle List for Hackney Carriages

This document applies to both new and replacement vehicles which are both subject to the Council's age policy (as approved 16 April 2013 as amended). It names the approved vehicles and specifications approved for use as hackney carriage vehicles.

There are three hackney carriage zones across the district, each with their own requirements. See full policies for details, key elements are

Chester Zone

- Must be Black in colour and brand new at first licence
- New hackney vehicle applications after 17/11/2020 must be for a new approved Ultra Low Emission vehicle

Ellesmere Port Zone

- Must be under 5 years old

Vale Royal Zone

- Must be under 5 years old (accept approved rear loading that must be new at first licence)

With effect from February 2014, all hackney carriage vehicles that are to be considered for the grant of a hackney carriage proprietor's licence must have;

- approval from the Council's Senior Access Officer;
- EC Whole Vehicle Type Approval (in the case of vehicles having UK Low Volume Type Approval only, additional permission must be sought. Individual vehicle conversions will not be approved);
- a hearing induction loop fitted
- high-visibility, contrasting style coloured internal fittings including grab-handles and seat pads (for persons with sight difficulties);
- a passenger side-step on each side of the vehicle. If permanently deployed or protruding, must have high-visibility edging to step; (may not required for vehicles with a lower floor height)
- three-point seatbelts to all seats;
- a taximeter to control the roof-light;
- a partition/bulk-head divider (between driver/rear passengers);
- single plate access ramp with a minimum of a 300 kg rating (wheelchair ramp). Alternative designs of ramps particularly that allows loading/unloading

either side of the vehicle may be considered/approved on a model by model basis;

- In the case of vehicles with rear sliding passenger doors, an illuminated warning bar be fitted to the rear of the vehicle to indicate when the passenger doors are open. This must be fitted externally, be to the specification of the vehicle manufacture and approved by the Council.
- a minimum of 135 cm rear headroom, when measured at the shortest distance between the vehicle floor and roof lining.
- Must evidence that Fare meter is set to appropriate fare tariff and a calibration certificate must be produced.

Approved Vehicle List

- LTI – London Taxi International and London Electric Vehicle Company
TX Electric taxi approved ultra low emission vehicle
- Cab Direct/Allied Vehicle Conversions – Peugeot E7; Mercedes M8, Peugeot Euro Taxi, Ford Pro-Cab
- **Nissan e-NV200** Dynamo Motor Company approved ultra low emission vehicle
- Voyager Multipurpose Vehicle Conversions – Renault NX8; Vauxhall Vivaro; Nissan NX8; Fiat/Citroen Voyager LC7; Ford Tourneo; Vauxhall Vivaro VX8

Specific to the **Vale Royal Zone Only** and new at first registration the following rear loading vehicles are approved;

Peugeot Premier (supplied by Cab Direct)

Ford Journey (supplied by Cab Direct)

Volkswagen Kudos (supplied by Cab Direct)

Guidance notes:

- The Council approves vehicles from specific manufacturers/suppliers/converters. Before purchasing a vehicle, you must be satisfied that the vehicle was manufactured/converted by an approved source. In the case of used vehicles, conversion certificates are vitally important. Vehicles without certificates proving the origin of the conversion should not be purchased. Purchases based on the make/model alone are not sufficient and may result in the licence application being refused.
- Vehicles presented to the Council for licensing must be accompanied by original documentation confirming the vehicles type approval at time of manufacture (European whole vehicle), the details of the vehicle and the conversion company. You are advised not to purchase a vehicle without both adequate and valid documentation.

- If you are unsure as to whether the vehicle will be licensed, you are strongly advised to check with the Council's licensing team prior to entering into any finance agreement or prior to committing to the purchase of any vehicle.
(Issued:Nov 2020)