

# Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council

## Approved Vehicle List for Hackney Carriages

This document provides a list of vehicles approved for use as a hackney carriage in the Council's three zones.

This document applies to new and replacement vehicles and is subject to the Council's age policy (as approved 16 April 2013 as amended).

Please Note: With effect from February 2014, all hackney carriage vehicles considered for the grant of a hackney carriage proprietor's licence must have (unless a model exempted from some of the requirements the Licensing Committee on approval) :

- 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.

These requirements apply to all new or used vehicles (not currently licensed) that are presented for licensing as a hackney carriage vehicle).

### Approved Vehicle List

- LTI – London Taxi International and London Electric Vehicle Company
- Cab Direct/Allied Vehicles – Peugeot E7; Mercedes M8, Peugeot Euro Taxi, Ford ProCab  
Vale Royal Zone **Only** (new at first registration to CWAC Spec)  
Peugeot Premier (supplied by Cab Direct)  
Ford Journey (supplied by Cab Direct)  
Volkswagen Kudos (supplied by Cab Direct)
- Voyager Multipurpose Vehicles Ltd – Renault NX8; Vauxhall Vivaro; Nissan NX8; Fiat/Citroen Voyager LC7; Ford Tourneo; Vauxhall Vivaro VX8
- “ScotCab” - Fiat Scudo SCG9 Wheelchair Accessible Taxi Adaptation (ScotCab)

### 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.
- From time-to-time, manufacturers alter their vehicle specifications. The Council reserves the right to refuse to licence any vehicle if it is deemed that there has been a material change to the design, appearance and/or specification since the model was last approved. Should there have been changes to the design, appearance and/or specification; further approval may be required before the grant of any licence.
- Vehicles presented to the Council for licensing must be accompanied by original documentation to prove the vehicles type approval issued to the vehicle (European whole vehicle), the details of the vehicle and the converter. You are advised not to purchase a vehicle without adequate valid documentation.
- If you wish the Council to consider the grant of a hackney carriage vehicle licence to a vehicle that is not on the approved list, a full manufacturer / converter application must be supplied along with vehicle testing and

technical data. The vehicle will also be inspected by the Council, including the Senior Access Officer and other appropriate organisations before approval is given. Some applications may be considered by the Council's licensing committee/ general licensing sub-committee which may add additional time to the application process.

- If you are unsure 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.

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