

Passengers with disabilities

Vehicles with wheelchair access

In accordance with its public sector equality duties, Wakefield Council has adopted and published a list of Designated Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles under the S.165 Equality Act 2010.

A driver of a designated wheelchair accessible vehicle is duty bound to:

- Carry the passenger while in the wheelchair
- Not to make any additional charge for doing so
- If the passenger chooses to sit in a passenger seat to carry the wheelchair
- To take such steps as are necessary to ensure that the passenger is carried in safety and reasonable comfort
- To give the passenger such mobility assistance as is reasonably required

All vehicles on this list are licensed hackney carriages or private hire vehicles. Before the list was published all owners were informed that their vehicle was to be included.

The list of wheelchair accessible vehicles is available [here](#)

Vehicles included in the list are able to carry passengers seated, at a minimum, in a 'reference wheelchair' as defined in schedule 1 of the Public Service Vehicle Accessibility Regulations 2000. Some vehicles may be able to carry larger wheelchair types. Please advise the Operator of your needs when making a booking to ensure the vehicle can accommodate your wheelchair and any other passengers or luggage you may be travelling with.

Information for drivers

The Council may exempt drivers from the duties to assist passengers in wheelchairs if it is satisfied it is appropriate to do so on medical grounds or because the driver's physical condition makes it impossible or unreasonably difficult to comply with the duties.

Drivers wishing to apply for an exemption from the duties under section 165 of the Act will be required to complete a medical exemption form.

Travelling by taxi

It is important that you never travel sideways in a taxi and that the brake of the wheelchair has been applied. Failure to do so could result in serious injury if the taxi has to brake sharply or is involved in an accident. If your wheelchair is of the powered variety make sure that the power unit has been switched off and the wheelchair is not in freewheel mode.

Assistance dogs

A driver cannot refuse to carry out a booking for a disabled passenger accompanied by an assistance dog unless the driver has been granted medical exemption by the Council and is displaying the exemption certificate in the windscreen or on the dashboard of the vehicle, it will have a large ED (for exemption dogs) printed on it. Dogs must be allowed to travel with the passenger at no extra charge.