

VEHICLE GUIDELINES TO ASCERTAIN SEATING CAPACITY FOR SALOON AND ESTATE VEHICLES

The following should be observed in relation to all applications for licensing vehicles constructed for the sole use of passengers and their effects in accordance with Construction and Use Regulations, and **NOT** adapted, for the conveyance of up to four passengers.

1. No vehicle will be licensed for less than four passengers.
2. The maximum number of passenger seats is four and the following will be taken into account when deciding seating capacity:-
 - (a) The width of each seat should not be less than 400mm per person, this measurement being taken across the front of the seat and, where necessary, between arm rests.
 - (b) There shall be sufficient room in the rear of the vehicle to accommodate three passengers. There shall also be adequate head and leg room to allow passengers to be conveyed in comfort and safety and therefore there should be a height of 870mm between the seat and roof of the vehicle and 180mm from the back of the front seat to the front of the rear seat [when the front seat is fully pushed back].
 - (c) There shall be a separate front seat to accommodate one person in addition to the driver [excluding London style cabs].
 - (d) There shall be a minimum of four doors, each adjacent to and allowing direct access to and from the seats.
 - (e) Each seat should comply with the seat belt regulations and, if necessary, be able to secure a child seat/booster seat.
 - (f) All seats should face forward in the direction of travel [except London style cabs].
 - (g) The vehicle shall be right hand drive, with the driver's door to the offside.

These conditions may be varied from time to time to accord with changes of Government legislation. It should be noted that the Government is currently considering new legislation which will incorporate the carriage of disabled persons in wheelchairs.