

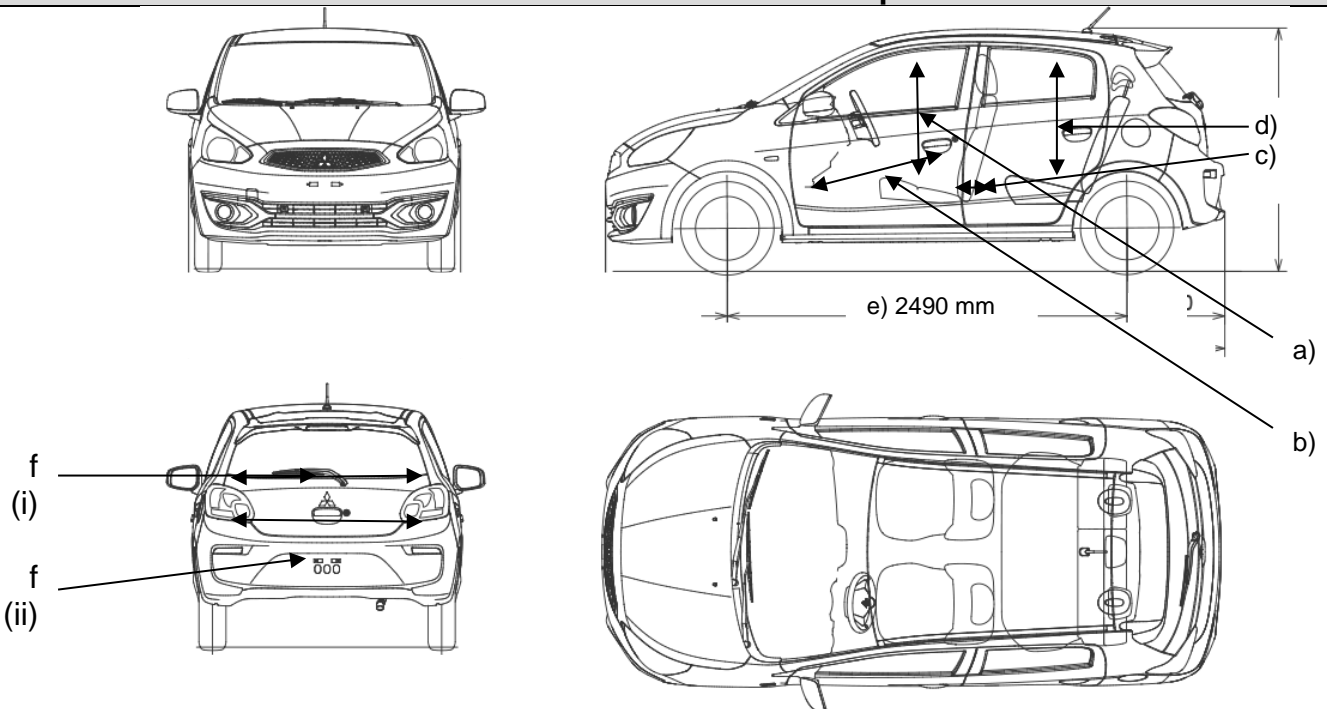
IN FORCE FROM 15 AUGUST 2019- (HCV Approved vehicles List as of 31.01.18)
KNOWSLEY MBC COMPLIANCE TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR VEHICLES

Vehicles presented for inspection unprepared or late will be refused a test and proprietors will be required to pay a further test fee before another appointment is made.

Before handing over the vehicle keys you must ensure no cash or valuable items are left in the vehicle. If presented with such items on view the testing station is at liberty to abandon the test and a new test appointment and a new fee will be required.

On attending for a compliance test the proprietor must provide details of the booking appointment, the vehicle registration document and/or other evidence of ownership.

Minimum vehicle dimensions re distances required for “comfort”



All saloon/ estate/hatchback vehicles must at least measure:			
a)	Front Passenger Headroom	35 inches (889 mm) min	Cushion not compressed
b)	Front Passenger Legroom	37 inches (940mm) min	Seat full rearward
c)	Rear Passenger Legroom	7 inches (178mm) min	Front seat fully rearward.
d)	Rear Passenger Headroom	34 inches (864mm) min	Cushion not compressed
e)	Wheelbase	98 inches (2490mm) min	
f (i)	Rear Seating Space	50 inches (1270mm) min	Rear seat backrest measured horizontally from a point in line with the bottom edge of the rear door windows
f (ii)	Rear Seating Space	48 inches [1219 mm] min	Rear seat backrest measured horizontally of rear seat squab.
g)	Luggage Space There must be adequate space for storing a reasonable amount of luggage outside of the passenger areas at minimum to allow for one piece of luggage per passenger.		



Knowsley Council

Taxi and Private Hire Compliance Test Appeals process

Should you wish to appeal against a Taxi/ Private Hire Compliance

- Refusal to test
- Test aborted
- Test fail

You can do so by completing the form available and forwarding it onto the council's licensing office:

E-mail: taxi.licensing@knowsley.gov.uk Contact – 0151 443 2300

An appeal will cost £25.00, the same as a vehicle re test fee, which will be fully refunded should the appeal be upheld.

The vehicle will need to be represented within 5 working days or a maximum of 500 miles since the vehicle originally failed its test.

1. APPROVED VEHICLES FOR THE GRANT OF LICENCES- HACKNEY CARRIAGE @ 31.01.2018

Only wheelchair accessible (WAV) vehicles LTi TX1, TX2 and TX4, Peugeot Euro 7, Euro Taxi and Expert, Car bodies Fairway, MCW Metrocab, Mercedes Vito (short and long wheelbase), Patons TW200, Fiat Scudo, Citroen Despatch Voyager and Ford ProCab may be tested for hackney carriage purposes. **You must contact the Licensing Office for advice before purchasing any other vehicle for intended use as a hackney carriage seeking to be licensed by Knowsley MBC.**

The licensing of hackney carriage vehicles will be dependent upon the Council being satisfied that the vehicle is suitable in size, type and design and comfortable for use as a hackney carriage vehicle. A guide to the general requirements of the Council is illustrated on page 1 and also at Appendix 1. Minimum dimensions as to legroom etc. apply to all vehicles including any MPV/ Minibus fitted with two or more rows of seats:

2. APPROVED VEHICLES FOR THE GRANT OF LICENCES- PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

Saloon, Hatchback and estate cars presented for inspection for private hire purposes must have at least four doors and wheels, be right hand drive only, have adequate space within the vehicle for carrying luggage and capable of carrying at least four and not more than eight passengers (excluding driver). **Vehicles that can carry more than 4 passengers must also comply with the requirements of the specifications at Appendix 1, item 10 as below.**

The licensing of private hire vehicles will be dependent upon the Council being satisfied that the vehicle is suitable in size, type and design and comfortable for use as a private hire vehicle. A guide to the general requirements of the Council is illustrated on page 1 and also at Appendix 1. Minimum dimensions as to legroom etc. apply to all vehicles including any MPV/ Minibus fitted with two or more rows of seats:

3. EXPECTED STANDARDS FOR CONDITION OF ALL VEHICLES AT TEST

- a) Any vehicle which has been the subject of major damage rectification repairs (category C or D) will not usually be issued with a Certificate of Compliance. It will be at the discretion of the vehicle examiner as to whether the vehicle has been the subject of such repairs and if such a vehicle is found fit the applicant will have to prove to the Licensing Office that the vehicle has been repaired to manufacturer specifications and that the intended insurance company is aware of that damage having occurred before any licence can be issued;
- b) All vehicles must be thoroughly steam cleaned, immediately prior to inspection and presented exceptionally clean, both interior and exterior, with all paintwork free of rust and corrosion and maintained to a very high standard- See Appendix 1 Guidance Notes for details;
- c) If a vehicle is not fitted with a Vehicle Identification number [VIN] plate to the front windscreen then all glass (save for mirrors and lights) must be etched with either the Registration or Chassis Number;
- d) Matching wheel trims of the same design must be fixed to all road wheels of the vehicle (unless alloy wheels are fitted) and the spare wheel and tyre must be road legal and rim clean. Space saver spares are permitted but not for hire and reward use. Only vehicles fitted with certified run-flat tyres do not need a spare tyre provided on the vehicle;
- e) Vehicles must be presented as originally constructed as per the Manufacturers Specification. Only manufacturer specification authorised optional extras will be permitted on vehicles;

Appendix 1 – GUIDANCE RE EXPECTED TEST STANDARDS – ALL VEHICLES

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Engine capacity/ sizes
No vehicle with an engine below 1100 cc engine may be licensed unless the applicant proves that the vehicle is rated to produce at least 100 BHP or 98 PS or 75 KW or higher |
| 2 | Use of Filler/ Tape
Filler is only acceptable on minor repairs to body panels but not in seams. Any protrusions or irregularities in the panel surface will not be accepted. Repairs to seams or gaps require the use of metal. Tape used on door/wind edges will not be accepted and will be removed by the vehicle inspectors during the test. Any person wishing to protect their doors should use proper rubber door edgings; |
| 3. | Paintwork
Paintwork should be of a high standard and uniform throughout the vehicle. No dissimilar coloured panels or dissimilar finish on panels will be accepted. Resprays to vehicles must be of a high standard and satisfy the vehicle inspector that it will endure the term of the licence; |
| 4. | Underseal
Excessive use of underseal will not be accepted and the vehicle inspectors may request that underseal be removed prior to testing; |
| 5. | Welding
Welding must not be used to substitute for the manufacturer specification panel and/or wing fastenings; |
| 6. | Upholstery and Carpets
All interior floor coverings and trim must be as per specification. Painted floors in the passenger compartment of hackney carriage vehicles are acceptable, provided paint is non slip. Carpets in the passenger compartment must be as per specification and properly secured with aluminium threads. Minor repairs to seats and upholstery will be accepted if repaired to a high standard. Excessively torn upholstery will be cause for failure of the test; |
| 7. | Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles (WAV)
All door retaining catches, seat belts and wheelchair restraining belts in respect of wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAV) must be in good working order. Wheelchair ramps must be etched with the Vehicle Licence Number or registration number; |
| 8. | Test Rules re payment and issue of licence <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Twenty- four- hours- notice of cancellation of any test appointment is required. Otherwise the test fee remains payable and will be forfeited on non-attendance.2. All vehicles requiring a retest must be presented for retest within 7 days of the original test date. Vehicles with more than 500 miles travelled since test will require a further full test.3. Once the vehicle passes the test the following MUST be produced to the Licensing Office within three working days of the day following the test-<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Certificate of Compliance;✓ Vehicle Registration Document or proof of ownership of the vehicle (new/replacement vehicles);✓ Appropriate insurance certificate/cover note (in the name of a licence holder,) and the relevant fee. <p>FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS REQUIREMENT WILL MEAN THAT A FURTHER TEST WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE THE VEHICLE WILL BE LICENSED.</p> |

9. **Additional Hackney Carriage Vehicle Test Requirements:**

- a. Must be fitted with an illuminated white box approximately 4” x 3” in size containing the word “CAB” plus the vehicle licence number in black letters. The box to be affixed to the rear side partition window and wired to the ignition so it is illuminated at all times when the vehicle is in motion;
- b. Hackney Carriage Vehicles must be fitted with a Council-approved Taximeter before testing. New or replacement vehicles may be tested without a Taximeter but a licence will not be granted until the vehicle is fitted with an approved Taximeter and then tested;
- c. Renewal application vehicles will only be tested with the Licence Plate correctly affixed. New or replacement vehicles can be tested without and in the event of any vehicle being considered unroadworthy a stop notice will be issued and the plates removed by the vehicle examiner.

10. **Additional Private Hire Vehicle Test Requirements:**

- a. Renewal application vehicles will only be tested with the Licence Plate correctly affixed. New or replacement vehicles can be tested without and in the event of any vehicle being considered unroadworthy a stop notice will be issued and the plates removed by the vehicle examiner.

11. **Additional Minibus and tail-lift equipped Vehicle Test Requirements:**

- a. The vehicle must have at least 4 doors and an alternative means of exit from the vehicle in an emergency. The emergency exit must not be situated on the offside of the vehicle. All doors must afford sufficient access to and from the vehicle and must be capable of locking in a fixed position when opened.
- b. The main passenger entrance to the vehicle shall be equipped with a step light which operates at all times when the entrance is opened, or shall have suitable internal lighting which illuminates the entrance when the doors are opened.
- c. The interior floor surface of the vehicle must be fitted with a non-slip covering and any steps to the vehicle must be fitted with anti-slip tread.
- d. There must be adequate, secure storage space for all passengers luggage preferably within the vehicle. The arrangements for storing luggage must not obstruct access to the vehicle exits or affect passenger comfort.
- e. If when the vehicle is fully occupied there is insufficient space within the vehicle for storage of luggage then a roof rack may be fitted providing the luggage is stored in a purpose built luggage carrier and the vehicle has a maximum roof load (as recommended by the vehicle manufacturers) equivalent to 12.5kg (28 lbs) per passenger.
- f. The manufacturer gross vehicle weight for the tyres and suspension actually fitted to the vehicle must be sufficient for a minimum payload equal to the driver, the number of passengers for which the vehicle licence is requested (at 70kg [154 lbs] per person), a full tank of fuel and luggage (at 16kg [36 lbs] per passenger).
- g. Any tail-lift equipped vehicle must have its lift inspected and certified fit in accordance with the manufacturer’s specifications and current LOLER certification at all times.