

1 CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982 - TAXI LICENCES

(a) POLICY MATTERS - ACCESSIBLE VEHICLES (AN516-2003)

Following the decision of the Committee to review its policy it is reported that the following vehicles are currently on service as taxis/private hire cars:-

Euro 7 Taxi
TXII
Volkswagen Caravelle
Volkswagen Transporter
Fiat Doblo
Fiat Skudo
Mercedes Travel Liner

All have previously been inspected by the Plant and Vehicle Officer and approved by the Committee as capable of taking a passenger in a wheelchair and are therefore deemed to be accessible.

The Committee is asked to resolve that these vehicles form the basis of a list of accessible vehicles. There will no doubt be other types of vehicle either purpose built or adapted which will also be capable of meeting the needs of passengers with a disability and in such circumstances it is recommended that in the first instance, the views of the Plant and Vehicle Officer and the Cabs Enforcement Officer be sought and their findings reported to the Committee for a decision as to whether the particular vehicle involved should be added to the list of approved accessible vehicles.

The question as to whether a "swivel seat" in the front passenger seat of a saloon car would make that car accessible has been raised. It is recommended that at this moment in time the Committee resolve not to recognise saloon cars as accessible (whether adapted or not) as there are sufficient numbers of saloon cars in service as taxis to satisfy the needs of the groups of disabled persons who indicated that type of vehicle was their preferred mode of transport.