



CHELTENHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Additional Advice – WAV Specification

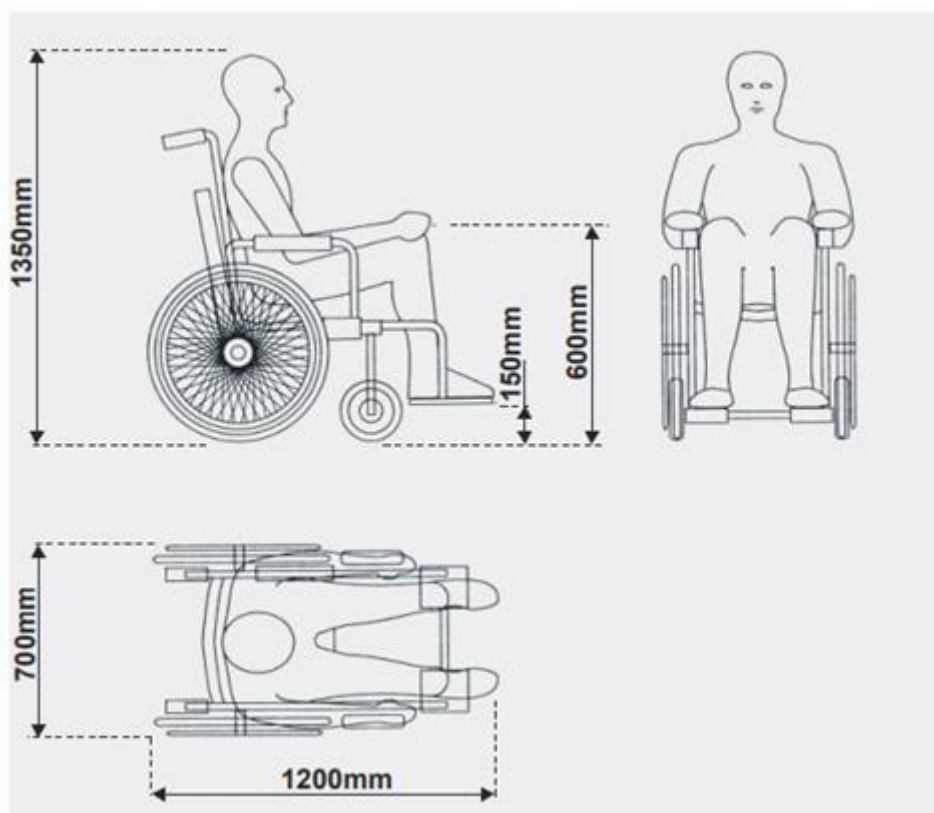
Emission Standards

The WAV specification sets a *minimum* EU Emissions standard as Euro5.

However, the council recommends that proprietors seek to licence a WAV that conforms to a higher emission standard so to ensure a maximum return on the investment. Since the minimum standard is Euro 5, **it is open therefore to vehicle proprietors to replace their saloon vehicles with a WAV that that is Euro 6, electric or low emission.**

Wheelchairs

The specification states that the **WAV must be capable of accommodating at least one “reference wheelchair”**. A reference wheelchair is defined in law by Schedule 1 of the Public Service Vehicle Accessibility Regulations 2000.



Make/Models

The council will write to all know taxi manufacturers/converters to outline the specifications. It is important for proprietors seeking to licence a WAV that is not on the list to contact the council to make arrangements for the WAV to be inspected. If the WAV is compliant with the specification, the make and model will be added to the list of approved WAVs that will be available on the council's website.

Transitional arrangements

The Council's Cabinet has resolved the WAV policy for licensed hackney carriages to be December 2021. As such, **all hackney carriages licensed by Cheltenham Borough Council must comply with the WAV specification by this date.**

Hackney carriage vehicle proprietors can continue to replace saloon vehicles on a like-for-like basis but must ensure that by December 2021 their licensed hackney carriage vehicle is a compliant WAV.

A "purpose built" WAV is a vehicle that has come off a production line as a taxi capable of accommodating at least one reference wheelchair. Conversely, vehicles that are not purpose built are those that have either been converted or adapted to carry wheelchairs.