

IPSWICH BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEDICAL ASSESSMENT FORM

Obligations on licensed hackney carriage and private hire vehicle drivers to carry passengers in wheelchairs – medical exemption

BACKGROUND

The Government is committed to an accessible public transport system in which disabled people can enjoy the same opportunities to travel as other members of society. Taxis and private hire vehicles are a vital link in the accessible transport chain and it is important that disabled people who need to use a wheelchair can have confidence that the vehicle they hire will accept them and carry them safely at no extra charge.

The Council has produced a list of designated vehicles under Section 165 of the Equality Act 2010 which places a legal duty on drivers 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; and
- To give the passenger such mobility assistance as is reasonably required.

The act then goes on to define mobility assistance as assistance:

- To enable the passenger to get in or out of the vehicle;
- If the passenger wishes to remain in the wheelchair, to enable the passenger to get into and out of the vehicle while in the wheelchair;
- To load the passenger's luggage into or out of the vehicle;
- If the passenger does not wish to remain in the wheelchair, to load the wheelchair into or out of the vehicle.

However, to enable drivers to continue to drive a taxi or private hire vehicle with certain medical conditions that would cause the driver difficulty in providing the required assistance, the law includes provisions for drivers to be exempted from these duties on medical grounds.

The licensing authority is responsible for issuing Certificates of Exemption and needs to be satisfied that it is appropriate to do so on medical grounds.

Please complete the following and return to:

Ipswich Borough Council, Taxi Licensing, Grafton House, 15-17 Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2DE.

Appendix B

For completion by a Medical Practitioner

Patients name:

Licence type and number:

Address:

Medical Practitioner:

Address:

Postcode: Telephone number:

In your opinion, does this person have a medical condition that would prevent them from carrying out the duties outlined overleaf on a **permanent** basis ?

(please tick) Yes No

In your opinion, does this person have a medical condition that would prevent them from carrying out the duties outlined overleaf on a **temporary** basis ?

(please tick) Yes No

If yes to either of the above, please give details of the condition (and attach copies of any relevant medical reports)

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If the medical condition is temporary;

Date from: To:

Will a further medical examination be required at the end of this period Yes No

Please provide any additional information that you consider will be of assistance

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Medical practitioner's signature Date:

Please note: any costs associated with this medical report will be met by the applicant.