

EQUALITY ACT 2010

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 12: Disabled Persons: Transport

Chapter 1: Taxis, etc.

Section 163: Taxi licence conditional on compliance with taxi accessibility regulations

Effect

531. This section prevents a licensing authority from granting a licence for a taxi to ply for hire unless the vehicle complies with the regulations made under section 160, so as to ensure that licensed taxis in use are accessible by disabled passengers. The provisions do not apply if a licence has been in force in respect of the taxi in the preceding 28 days, so that existing vehicles can continue to be used even if they do not meet the accessibility requirements.

Background

532. This section replicates similar provisions in section 34 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

Examples

- Someone making an application for a taxi licence will need to ensure the taxi will be accessible by disabled people.
- A driver renewing the licence for a taxi will not need to show that the vehicle meets the accessibility requirements as long as it was licensed in the 28 days preceding the grant of the new licence.