

**Essex Licensing Authorities MPV Seating Policies as at September 2016**

Basildon	<p>Changed policy requiring unrestricted access and egress to seating January 2015. Vehicles must now have at least three doors to passenger accommodation, signage showing how to lift seats properly, yellow/orange coloured operating levers, unobstructed windows, exit window signs and an internal device for the rear hatch doors to be opened from the inside of the vehicle.</p>
Braintree	<p>Licence number as per the vehicle registration document but no side facing seats</p>
Brentwood	<p>MPV policy requires direct access to front and middle row seats but does allow the middle row seat to be moved to permit egress and access to the rear.</p> <p><i>Currently reviewing policy to require direct access to all seats for safety reasons</i></p>
Castle Point	<p>In respect of minibuses a minimum of three doors to the passenger accommodation shall be provided. Where seat rows do not have immediate access to doorways, a clear passageway must be provided as a means of access and egress.</p> <p>Have proper signs on how to lift the second rows of seats</p> <p>Have exit windows on the near and offside in respect of the rear row of seats and that they be free from obstruction at all times to allow access in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>Have well positioned exit window signs</p> <p>Have an internal device for the rear hatch door to be opened from the inside</p>
Chelmsford	<p>Seat must be removed if access/egress is restricted.</p> <p><i>Chelmsford have no plans to review their policy</i></p>
Colchester	<p>Licence number as per the vehicle registration document and have no restrictions.</p> <p><i>Colchester have no plans to change their policy</i></p>
Epping	<p>A sufficient number of doors allowing safe access and egress from the vehicle. Where there is only one passenger door that door shall be on the nearside of the vehicle.</p> <p><i>Following review of their MPV policy in April 2016.</i></p>

Harlow	<p>Licence number as per the vehicle registration document and have no restrictions.</p> <p><i>Harlow have no plans to review their policy</i></p>
Rochford	<p>The seating configuration in the passenger area behind the driver shall be such that no person for the purpose of ingress or egress of the vehicle shall have to move or dismantle any seat or other obstruction or manoeuvre over or round any other passenger or article carried in the vehicle.</p> <p><i>May be reviewed at some point in the future</i></p>
Southend	<p>No seat shall need to be moved or tilted before a passenger can enter or exit the vehicle.</p> <p><i>Southend have no plans to review their policy</i></p>
Thurrock	<p>Will require rear seat to be removed if access/egress is restricted. They won't licence a Ford Galaxy because the base of the seat needs to be moved.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Any seat adjacent to the nearside door of the passenger compartment of a licensed vehicle must be removed, where necessary, to permit a clear and unobstructed entry to and exit from the back row seating compartment.</li> <li>2. No person entering or exiting the licensed vehicle should have to remove or dismantle any seat or other obstacle, climb over any person being carried in the vehicle, or have any other person leave their seat to facilitate them entering or exiting the vehicle.</li> </ol> <p><i>Thurrock have no plans to review their policy</i></p>
Uttlesford	<p>Must have a rear internal body width of a least 4 feet and 3 inches measured from 6 inches below the top and 6 inches in front of the rear back rest with both doors closed, minimum of 4 doors, at least 8½ inches leg room for rear passengers measured from the rear door pillar to the nearest point of the rear seat sqab, to have all doors capable of being opened from both inside and outside of the vehicle to an angle of 60 degrees or in the case of sliding doors to be capable of providing an open unrestricted minimum width of 2 feet and 10 inches and must be fitted exclusively with safety glass.</p> <p><i>Adopted 7 April 2016</i></p>

\* Ipswich Borough Council also does not have any restriction on seating capacity and will licence the number of passengers for the vehicle as per the details shown on the vehicle registration document.