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Indicators for Liaison between Vehicle Assessors and Wheelchair and Seating Assessors¹

Where a Vehicle Assessor is undertaking an assessment with a disabled person for a wheelchair accessible vehicle, they are required to liaise and where indicated request a review from the person's Wheelchair and Seating Assessor.²

This is to ensure the person's long term needs are considered. Liaison between therapists is required for people who have not had a wheelchair and seating review for more than one year, or where their needs have changed.

Wheelchair and Seating Assessors should routinely ask disabled people if they are experiencing transport and/or transfer issues and be familiar with funding / referral options. Refer to the *Equipment and Modification Services Vehicle Purchase and Modification Manual* for further information. The Wheelchair and Seating Assessor can provide advice, as part of the assessment team, liaising with the Vehicle Assessor to ensure any recommended solution for vehicle purchase or modifications is the most appropriate and cost-effective option to meet the person's disability related needs.

The following list is not exhaustive and provides an indication of when Vehicle Assessors and Wheelchair and Seating Assessors are required to liaise when undertaking an assessment with a disabled person for a wheelchair accessible vehicle.

- Change to wheelchair size/footprint
- Change to wheelchair type that may result in different tie down points/restraint requirements
- Going from basic power chair to TnS chair or additional features
- Change for client who has previously been a self-driver to someone who is now transported
- Change from manual wheelchair to powered wheelchair or vice versa
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¹ Acknowledgement to Seating to Go

² Where it is not possible to seek an assessment from the person's Wheelchair and Seating Assessor, an assessment from a Wheeled Mobility and Postural Management Level 1 Credentialed Assessor is the minimum requirement.

- Changes to seated height that results in reduced clearance for vehicle entry, or reduced clearance above the person's head when travelling
- Change to seating affecting knee height for self-drivers
- Increases to overall weight of wheelchair
- Reports of problems with vehicle entry or restraint system
- Need for wheelchair/seating modifications to allow access into the vehicle or to enable self-driving e.g. fold down back canes, drop down controller
- Any issue with safety related to self-driving.