

Hello my name is Geoff Seymour and I have been driving taxis /private hire vehicles in bath since 2003,

In 2007 I purchased a wheelchair access vehicle because I noticed that there was a gap in the market and since then I've replaced my taxi twice with wheelchair access vehicles

Uber do not offer a service for wheelchair users outside of London Birmingham and Manchester,

You cannot pre book a vehicle so as to guarantee the car will be accessible to your needs

Disabilities are not all the same and often users need alternative vehicles such as a lower access car or a higher access car

If they Perhaps might require a larger vehicle so as to carry a fold up wheel chair or a walking frame they would have to order a multi seater vehicle (Uber xl) which would cost them considerably more as these generally meant to carry 5-7 people ,where if they could speak to a operator the correct standard vehicle could be dispatched

Often passengers require the driver to go up to their door or into the premises were they are waiting so the driver can assist them to the car and as you cannot phone text ,email, or even fax Uber it is impossible to convey any special requirements to the driver

Disability work probably only accounts for about 15% of my overall takings so I'm often plying for hire on Baths taxi ranks, but I'm afraid to say that at the rate business is being affected by the significant increase in taxis/private hires operating in our city since the influx of drivers from other areas who predominantly work for Uber in Bath that I simply will not be able to afford to replace my current vehicle in 3 years' time with another accessible one as I'm sure you are aware wheelchair access vehicles are considerably more expensive than standard cars

If multinational companies using drivers and vehicles not licensed by banes that are solely app based are allowed to continue to decimate our local businesses the public will soon have no access to accessible vehicles at all

