



## Adults and Health

### Access to subsidised transport policy

This policy explains the criteria SCC Adults and Health and Somerset Partnership staff must follow to provide subsidised transport. This guidance applies to:

- Learning disabilities services
- Mental health services
- Older people social care services
- Physical disability and sensory loss services.

Subsidised transport will **not** be provided for everyone that we support and we expect people to make their own way to activities where possible.

If the assessment of the person determines eligible needs under the Care Act eligibility criteria; and in order to achieve their outcome support is required with transport, the person is eligible to access subsidised transport providing:

No accessible public or community transport is available at the appropriate time **and** no other method of transport is available, for example access to a family car

**Or**

No accessible public or community transport is available at the appropriate time **and** not providing transport would place an unreasonable additional responsibility on the carer or other family member. **Please note: the approval of a team manager is required for this option.**

**Or**

The person is unable to walk or ride on public or community transport because of a disability, behaviour or poor health **and** no other method of transport is available, for example access to a family car.

The eligibility test for transport is separate from the Care Act eligibility determination. A person must be eligible under the Care Act criteria before they can be considered for subsidised transport. Not everyone will be eligible for both.

When subsidised transport is needed, a transport request form (in the electronic forms section on the extranet) should be completed and submitted. This will be sent to the Passenger Administration Team (PAT) in Transporting Somerset. A form should also be submitted to notify them of any variation/termination.

A charge will be made for all subsidised transport provided or arranged by Adults and Health and Somerset Partnership. Cabinet Members review these charges each year. Public transport will normally be free after 9am to people who are over 60 or have disabilities. Community transport is available with a 50% discount, and service users should be encouraged to use these socially inclusive forms of transport.