

Carers Information Sheet 12

Mobility & Transport Information

BLUE BADGE SCHEME

Allows a passenger from age 3 or driver with great difficulty walking 50 metres (or registered blind) to park closer to their destination & disregard double yellow lines; may be dropped off on red routes, etc.

8314 9844 or

Email: concessionaryawards@lewisham.gov.uk

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT (Lewisham)

Accessible vehicles, especially minibuses, for voluntary groups & individuals.

52 Deptford Broadway, SE8 4PH

8692 4849 info@lewishamctscheme.org.uk

DIAL A RIDE

Offers a London-wide transport service to people who are unable to use public transport. There is a charge for the user and the person accompanying them, depending on the distance travelled.

Tel: **0843 222 1234**

or www.tfl.gov.uk/dialaride to apply.

DISABLED MOTORING UK

Tel: **01508 489449**

DISABILITY LIVING ALLOWANCE MOBILITY COMPONENT

To claim a Mobility Allowance you must be under the age of 65 and complete the second section of the Disability Living Allowance Form. The Mobility Allowance is to enable people to get out because they either have severe difficulty walking or they need to be watched over due to confusion, behaviour problems, blindness, etc. There are two levels of benefit which can be claimed under this section:

- High for people with severe difficulties (age 3 up)
- Low for people with less severe difficulties (from age 5), who may need someone to keep an eye on them when they are outside, or who have difficulty finding their way around a new place.

This benefit is not means tested and does not stop your cared for person claiming other



benefits. If awarded, it continues after age 65. Ask for leaflet **DS706** from your local **DSS**. Get advice from a reputable advice agency before completing the form.

FREEDOM PASSES for public transport (not trains) entitle disabled people, the over-60s and those under 18 to free travel (England-wide for adults). Apply to the Council: **8314 6560** (or email *see Blue Badges).

Half-price Oystercard for others on Income Support: **0845 330 9876** or www.tfl.gov.uk/discountcard

HOSPITAL or SURGERY TRANSPORT

If you need transport to enable the person you care for to attend appointments please contact your GP or speak to your Hospital Outpatient Department and they will arrange transport to pick up your cared for person. For surgery journeys, you may have to try the Voluntary Care scheme (below). If on a low income, hospital & "treatment centre" fares can be refunded.

MOBILITY SCOOTERS

Class 2 go up to 4mph - on pavements. Class 3 may also go on the road - up to 8mph. Currently no driving licence or insurance is needed. Only available to buy, unless you qualify for Motability.

For more information:

Disabled Living Foundation **0845 130 9177**

MOTABILITY

If your cared for adult or child is receiving the higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance you may be able to arrange to hire or lease a car. All your mobility benefit will be taken to pay the necessary instalments on your behalf. Motability may also be able to help if you wish to purchase an outdoor powered wheelchair or mobility scooter.

0845 456 4566 www.motability.co.uk

PARKING BAYS

In Lewisham you are only entitled to a Parking Bay at your home if you are a disabled driver yourself. If you are caring for someone who, due to age or disability, cannot drive, the Council may, at their discretion, provide a Disabled Parking Bay. They will assess your situation to decide if you are eligible. For others in a controlled parking zone, an annual Carers' Permit may be purchased (£30).

For more information please contact Lewisham Parking Shop, 2 Rennell St., SE13 7HD

08452 185248

RAIL TRAVEL - Disabled Persons Rail Card

This will cost around £18 for a year, and enables the disabled person (and any accompanying adults) to travel by train at considerably reduced fares. Ask at your nearest rail station for a booklet and application form or phone: **0845 605 0525**

ROAD TAX

If the person you care for is between 5 and 66 years old and gets a mobility allowance at the higher rate they may be able to get a road tax exemption or you may get one on their behalf if you are the main driver. For more information contact DVLA, Swansea, SA99 1BL

0870 240 0009 www.dvla.gov.uk

SHOPMOBILITY

Hire of electric wheelchairs, scooters or manual wheelchairs to enable people with disabilities to use at the Lewisham Shopping Centre. The scheme will also provide a volunteer escort if requested in advance. At present the scheme does not organise transport to get you to the Centre: **8297 2735**

TAXICARD / CAPITAL CALL

Provides black cabs / private hire cabs for those virtually unable to walk. Should include fully wheelchair accessible cabs. Individual annual budget.

7484 2929 / 7275 2446

TRAVEL ASSISTANCE SCHEME

Short term personal assistance for an adult with a disability to gain confidence travelling on public transport.

7027 5821/2 travel.assistance@tfl-buses.co.uk

VOLUNTARY CARE TRANSPORT SCHEME

Volunteer car transport for disabled or elderly Borough residents: **8291 6336 / 1747**

WALKING STICKS AND WALKING FRAMES

Ask

1. Your GP
2. Your Hospital Outpatients Clinic, or
3. The Occupational Therapy Service: **8314 777**

Walking Stick Clinic: Tuesdays, Laurence House, Catford between 11am and noon: **8314 6000**
Carers Lewisham stocks **replacement ferrules** - *worn rubbers increase the risk of falls & accidents!*

WHEELCHAIRS

How to get a permanent chair

If someone you care for has a permanent need for a wheelchair they can get one supplied through the NHS. The application will have to be made by your GP, Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist or Hospital Consultant. The kinds of chairs available are ones controlled by the user, ones pushed by a helper and, under certain circumstances, electric powered ones.

NHS Wheelchair service at Guys' and St Thomas'
020 3049 7700



**Carers Lewisham, The Princess Royal Trust, Lewisham Carers Centre,
Waldram Place, Forest Hill, London, SE23 2LB
Tel: 020 8699 8686 Fax: 020 8699 0634
Email: info@carerslewisham.org.uk Web: www.carerslewisham.org.uk**

