

Carers Information Sheet 15

Mobility & Transport Information

BLUE BADGE SCHEME

Allows a passenger from age 2 or driver with permanent walking disabilities (or registered blind) to park closer to their destination. **8314 9844** or e-mail concessionarywards@lewisham.gov.uk

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SCHEME (Lewisham)

Accessible vehicles especially minibuses for voluntary groups & individuals.

Room F6, The Leemore Centre, Clarendon Rise, Lewisham, London SE13 5ES. Tel **020 8318 5900**

info@lewishamctscheme.org.uk

DIAL A RIDE

Offers a London-wide transport service to people who are unable to use public transport. Dial a ride is free, you just need to become a member which is also free. Tel: **0343 222 7777** or www.tfl.gov.uk/dialaride to apply.

Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

MOBILITY COMPONENT

To claim the mobility component you must be under the age of 65 and complete the second section of the PIP form. The mobility component 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 rates of benefit which can be claimed under this section:

- Enhanced rate for people with severe difficulties (age 3 up)
- Standard rate 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. 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 9844** (or e-mail—see Blue Badges).

Half-price Oystercard for others on Income Support, Employment Support Allowance and Jobseekers Allowance: **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 higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance or

the mobility enhanced rate of PIP 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.

For disabled bays please Lewisham Council on **020 8314 2095** or email traffic@lewisham.gov.uk

For carers parking permits contact **020 8297 3627** or email lewishamparkingpermits@nslservices.co.uk

RAIL TRAVEL

Disabled Persons Rail Card

Receive a third off most rail fares across Britain. This will cost around £20 for one year or £54 for 3 years (2014 rates), and enables the disabled person (and an accompanying adult) to travel by train at considerably reduced fares. Ask at your nearest rail station for a booklet and application form or phone **0345 605 0525** / minicom/textphone **0345 601 0132** or email disability@atoc.org

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 1DZ 0300 790 6801** www.dvla.gov.uk

SHOPMOBILITY

Hire of electric wheelchairs, scooters or manual wheelchairs to enable people with disabilities to use 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. **020 8297 2735**

TAXICARD

Provides subsidised transport for people with serious mobility impairment and difficulty using public

transport. Taxicard holders make their journeys in licensed London taxis and private hire vehicles and the subsidy applies directly to each trip. You'll be allocated an annual budget. Tele: **020 8314 9844**

CAPITAL CALL

Compliments the Taxicard scheme, using minicabs and private hire vehicles in parts of London where black taxis are less easy to obtain. You'll be allocated an annual budget. Tele: **020 7275 2446** or email capitalcallbookings@hctgroup.org

TRAVEL MENTORING SERVICE

Short term personal assistance for an adult with a disability to gain confidence travelling on public transport. Tele: **020 3054 4361**
email: travelmentor@tfl.gov.uk

VOLUNTARY SERVICES LEWISHAM TRANSPORT SCHEME

Volunteer car transport for disabled or elderly Borough residents. **020 8291 1747**

WALKING STICKS AND WALKING FRAMES

Ask

1. your GP
2. your Hospital Outpatients Clinic, or
3. The Occupational Therapy Service **8314 7777**

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**

DISABLED MOTORING UK —Tel 01508 489449

Disabled Motoring UK is a campaigning charity for disabled drivers, passengers and Blue Badge holders.



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

Patron: Dr Brian Fisher MBE Registered Charity No:1073592 Company limited by guarantee Registered in England No:3681548

