

Enfield Transport Policy Adult Social Care



Easy Read

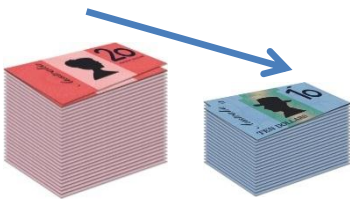
Why we need a policy



This policy will tell you how Enfield Council will help people with assessed and eligible needs access transport.



We need a new policy because there is a new Care Act (2014). This gives Councils new duties, which mean we will need to support more people.



We also need a new policy because the Council is getting less money from the Government.



This means the Council needs to make £70 million savings by 2020.

This includes a saving of £24 million from Adult Social Care.



Also more people are now living longer, sometimes with complex health conditions and significant disabilities.



People are right to expect a good quality of life. The council's priority is to protect services for the most vulnerable people in Enfield.



In 2014/15 the Council spent over £1.3 million on transport for adults with eligible social care needs.



To achieve its priority for protecting services for vulnerable people, the council needs to find a more efficient way of meeting transport needs.



Enfield Council's Cabinet has allocated savings of £500, 000 for 2016/17 (and proposes a further £400,000) Cabinet is still to approve this.



Once agreed by Council Cabinet, this policy will be implemented from April 1st 2016

Principles of the policy



The council believes in promoting independence. If you can travel independently, you will be expected to do so.



The Council is committed to doing everything the Care Act says it should do. For the purpose of this transport policy this means -



The council will work with you at your Assessment (or review) to identify your eligible needs around transport.

Jargon Buster – Eligible needs are things you need help with because of your disability or illnesses that have a significant impact on your wellbeing.



This includes needs to get out and about in the community, and use community resources, like public transport.



The Council will work with you to identify your needs, risks and outcomes, with a focus on promoting independence.



Jargon Buster – In social care, an 'outcome' refers to an aim or objective you would like to achieve.



The Council will plan together with you to meet your transport needs in personalised ways that are individual to you.



The Council will give you information you can understand to help you arrange to meet your transport needs, where possible.



If you cannot arrange to meet your transport needs yourself, the Council will arrange this for you.



If the Council does arrange to meet your transport needs for you, you may be expected to contribute to the costs. There is more about this later.



The Council will work in partnership with you to make sure your transport needs are recorded in your Care and Support plan. There is more about this in the next section.

Your Needs Assessment and Care & Support Plan



There is more information on assessments and care and support planning on the council website [here](#)



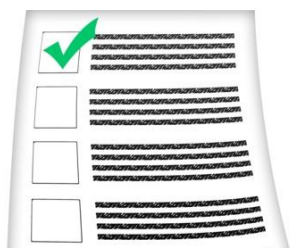
You can have someone help you at you assessment, or making your Care & Support Plan. This could be a family member or friend.



If you do not have anyone to help you, and have substantial difficulty taking part, the Council will appoint an advocate for you.



At your assessment (or review) the Council will work with you to assess your needs around getting out and about and using public transport.



We will explain which needs are eligible under the Care Act national eligibility criteria.

Jargon Buster – National Eligibility Criteria is the level at which your needs reach the point that the Council, by law, has to meet them.



The Council will work with you to create a 'Care & Support Plan'. This will say how these needs will be met.



We will discuss with you all the appropriate options for meeting your transport needs. This could include -



- What you are doing now
- Things you can buy yourself
- A motability car
- Concessionary travel
- Support from Family or friends
- Many other things



You may have some needs that are not eligible under the Care Act. We will give you information and advice to help you meet these needs yourself.



The Council will always talk to your family or friends to make sure they are willing and able to do the things that your support plan says they will do.



You family carers can have their own separate assessment, if they want one.



Your Care and Support Plan will also record a 'contingency plan'. This is what to do if something changes, for example, a carer is no longer willing or able to provide support.



If you have recently been discharged from hospital after an accident or illness, you assessor may suggest 'Enablement' support.



Jargon Buster – Enablement is a way of helping you to become more independent by gaining the ability to move around and do everyday tasks for yourself. It usually lasts for around six weeks, takes place in your own home, and you won't have to pay.



Travel training, or sometimes special equipment, may help you travel more independently. We will always do a risk assessment before putting this in your Care & Support Plan



Your assessment may have identified some eligible needs you cannot meet yourself, or cannot be met with support from family or friends.



For example, you may need a specially adapted vehicle, or need special support for your journey.



You may not have an eligible transport need, but need help with transport to get to something that does meet an eligible need. For example; work, education, training or a service.



We will discuss with you all the options for meeting these transport needs.



Your Care & Support plan will record how the council helps arrange for these needs to be met.



The Council will only pay towards things that are recorded in your Care & Support plan.



If the Council pays towards your transport, we will always look at the best value appropriate option for you.

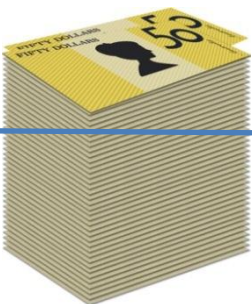
Paying for your transport



How much you contribute to the costs of your care and support is worked out at your financial assessment.



This policy sits alongside the overall charging policy. You can read about this in the 'Charges for Community Care Services for People Living at Home' leaflet.



If your assets are above the 'upper capital limit', (currently £23,250) the Council will not contribute to the costs of meeting your travel needs.



If your assets are below the upper capital limit, and the Council is contributing to your personal budget for travel, you may have to pay a contribution.



We will discuss this with you at your financial assessment.



If the council contributes to the costs of meeting your care and support needs, it will be included in your personal budget.

Jargon Buster – Your Personal Budget is Money that is allocated to you by your local council to pay for care or support to meet your assessed needs.



If you have additional transport expenses due to your illness or disability you can claim these as 'Disability Related Expenditure' (DRE).

Jargon Buster - Disability Related Expenditure is money that you have to spend on things because of your disability that you would not have to spend otherwise.



If you are claiming transport disability related expenditure, you can only claim for the cheapest appropriate option for you.



You can only claim DRE for transport expenses above and beyond you mobility benefits (mobility component of DLA or PIP)



When claiming DRE for travel to work, education or training the amount we pay will be less the cost of the standard journey by public transport.



If you have a Motability vehicle that you drive, the Council will expect you to use this to meet your transport need, where ever reasonable.



If you have a Motability vehicle but do not drive, the Council expects the vehicle to be available to you to meet your transport needs.



If an unpaid carer, like a family member or friend, normally drives your car, the council will talk to them about how they are able to meet your transport needs.



You cannot claim DRE for car running costs, like fuel or parking. These are expenses that everyone with a car has to pay.



If you have a Blue Badge displayed on your car, you are exempt from most parking fees.



If you live in a residential care setting, the Council generally expects the costs of your transport needs to be included in the cost of your service.



There are some exceptions where people do not pay towards their care and support –

- If you qualify for statutory aftercare under section 117 of the Mental Health Act.
- If you have Creutzfeldt Jacob Disease.

Appendix 1. Transport options for people supported by adult social care



All **public transport buses** are now wheelchair accessible. Most buses can accommodate two wheelchairs.

Most routes have visual and audible announcements for passengers.

Travel is free anytime in Greater London for residents with a Freedom Pass.



TfL Trains and tube. Transport for London is working to install 'step free' access in all its stations. This will take a long time to complete, but TfL have a useful accessibility page [here](#).

Travel is free anytime in Greater London for residents with a Freedom Pass.



Disabled drivers and passengers can apply for a **Blue Badge**.

Blue Badge holders can park for free on most roads (with some exceptions).

Blue badge holders can also claim exemption from the Congestion Charge.



Disabled drivers can also claim exemption from road tax.



All public car parks in London have designated disabled parking bays. Enfield Town has full disabled access to all shops and restaurants.



Higher rate mobility allowance can be exchanged for a **Motability vehicle** from any participating dealership. Full information can be found [here](#)

Insurance, breakdown cover, service, maintenance and repairs are covered by your agreement.

An agreement for a Motability vehicle is for three years, so if you choose this option you cannot claim any other transport costs for the period of your agreement.



People in receipt of mobility allowance can use some of it to rent a **Motability scooter or powered wheelchair**. Full details can be found [here](#)



The **London Taxicard Scheme** provides subsidised transport in taxis and private hire vehicles for people with mobility problems or a visual impairment. The application form can be downloaded [here](#).

Full details about the London Taxicard Scheme can be found [here](#)



To be eligible for **Dial-a-Ride**, you must have a permanent or long-term disability which means you cannot use public transport some or all of the time.

You are automatically eligible for membership of Dial-a-Ride if you are:

- a Taxicard member getting higher rate mobility benefit or War Pensioner's mobility supplement
- registered blind or partially sighted
- aged 85 or over

If none of the above applies, you may still be able to join Dial-a-Ride, but you will have to complete a mobility assessment form.

Dial-a-Ride will not provide travel to and from day care centres. More information is available from Transport for London [here](#)



There are a number of **voluntary schemes** locally and some day care providers have a transport option.



Personal Assistants and Chaperones. Where a person requires accompaniment to travel and there is no family member or friend available to travel with them, there are agencies who can provide travel assistants for this purpose. These agencies can be found on the Council's Adult Social Care [e-market place](#).



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