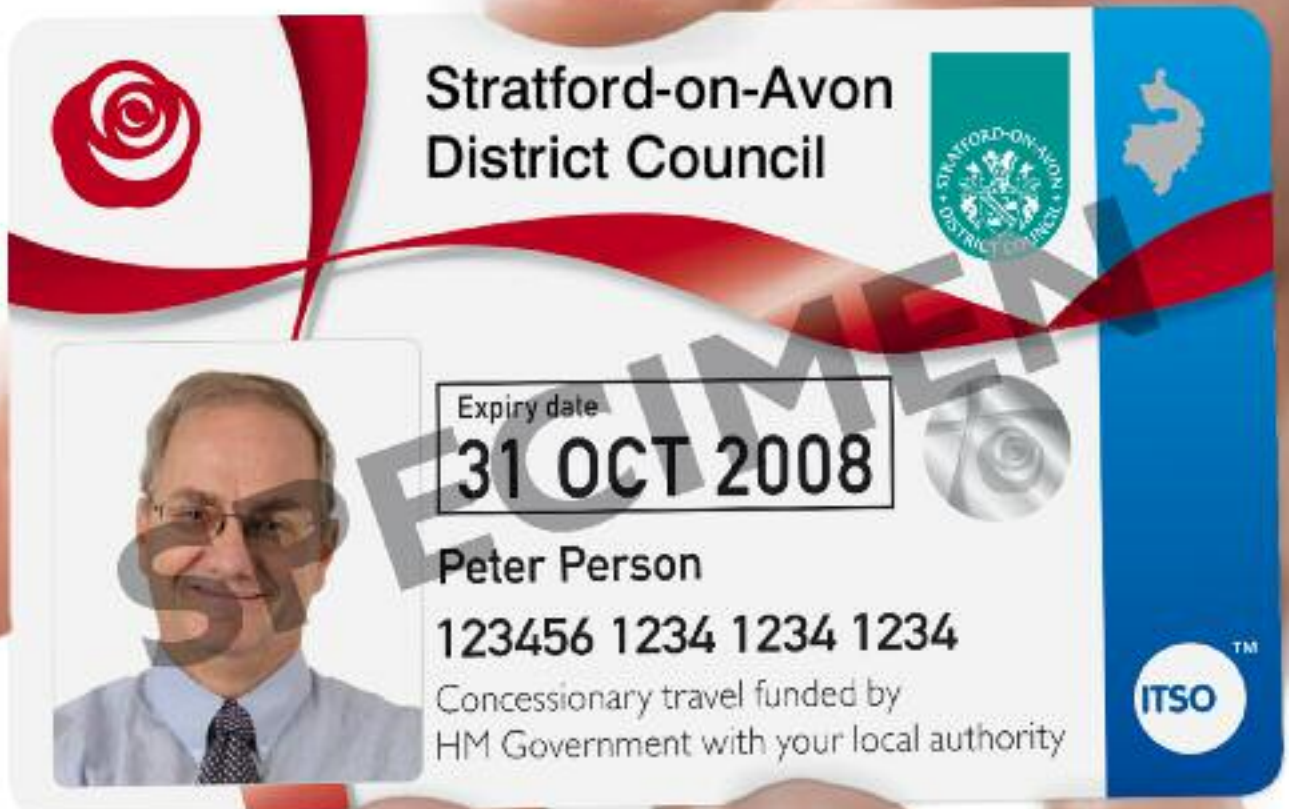




Concessionary Travel Scheme from 2008

Guidance and Eligibility Notes



WHO IS ELIGIBLE ?

The purpose of these notes is to provide a brief explanation of the terms used in the application form and the eligibility chart within these guidance notes (page 4).

1 RESIDENT OF THE DISTRICT

Concessions are only available to permanent residents of the District of Stratford-on-Avon.

2 WOMEN AND MEN OVER 60

The Transport Act requires councils to make concessions available to women and men aged 60 and over. You do not have to be in receipt of a pension, just aged over 60.

3 MEDICAL GROUNDS

(a) Blind or Partially sighted

'**Blind**' means having a high degree of vision loss i.e. seeing much less than is normal or perhaps nothing at all. '**Partial sight**' is a less severe loss of vision. Partially sighted people can see more than someone who is blind but less than a fully sighted person. Specific definitions are available on request. Although it is voluntary to register with Social Services, it is a requirement of this scheme to do so and to produce evidence of registration.

(b) Profoundly or severely deaf

Passes will be available to persons having a hearing loss of over 70dBHL. Although it is voluntary to register with Social Services, it is a requirement of this scheme to do so and to produce evidence of registration, and of the level of hearing loss.

(c) Without speech

Included within this category are people who are unable to communicate orally in any language. Those people will be

- unable to make clear basic oral requests
e.g. to ask for a particular destination or fare
- unable to ask specific questions to clarify instructions
e.g. "Does this bus go to the High Street?"

This category would not cover people who are able to communicate orally but whose speech may be slow or difficult to understand because, for example, of a severe stammer. To qualify on these grounds medical evidence to support the application will be required.

(d) Has a disability, or has suffered an injury, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on his/her ability to walk.

Those who are in receipt of the following state benefits for which eligibility is based on walking ability will qualify automatically under this definition:

- Higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA),
- War pensioners mobility supplement.

Other applicants will require medical evidence to support their claim that their walking ability is permanently and substantially impaired, in particular

- the ability of the applicant to walk for distances up to 100m without stopping, experiencing severe discomfort or requiring help from another person.
- whether a mobility aid is used - wheelchair, crutches, walking frame, stick, etc., and whether they can only do so with excessive labour and at an extremely slow pace or with excessive pain.

In other words the degree of disability should not fall far short of that required to qualify for the higher rate mobility component of DLA.

(e) Does not have arms or has long-term loss of the use of both arms

This category includes upper limb double amputees and those with congenital absence of both upper limbs. It also covers people who have both arms who, for medical reasons, are unable to use them to carry out day to day tasks, for example, paying coins into a fare machine. In these latter cases medical evidence to support the application will be required.

(f) Has a learning disability, that is, a state of arrested or incomplete development of mind

This includes significant impairment of intelligence and social functioning.

A person with a learning disability has a reduced ability to understand new or complex information, a difficulty in learning new skills, and may be unable to cope independently. These disabilities must have started before adulthood and have a lasting effect on development.

To qualify, the applicant should be on a register of people with learning disabilities held by Social Services, have contact with specialist services, have had special educational provision or if none of these apply, medical evidence will be required.

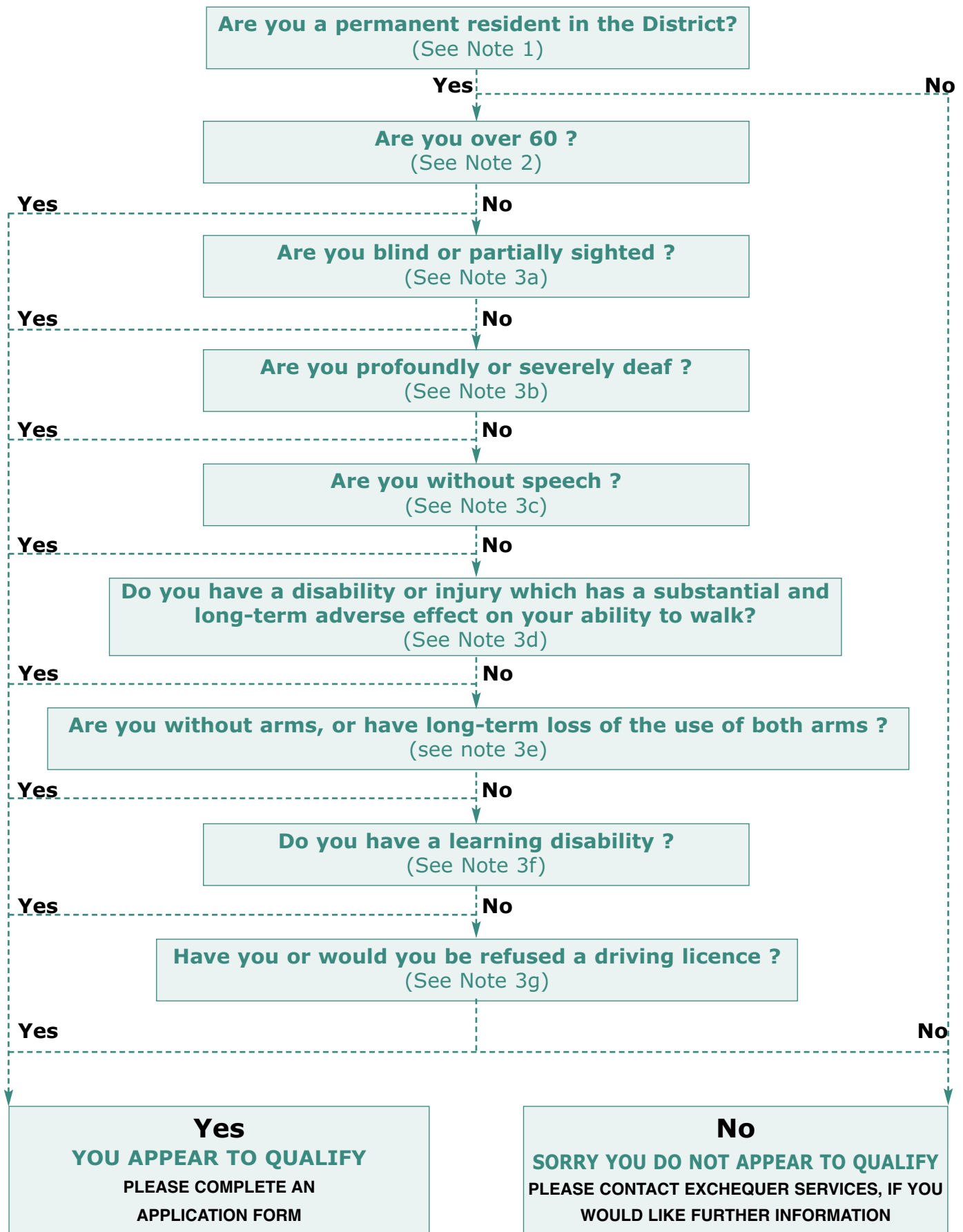
(g) Would, if he/she applied for the grant of a licence to drive a motor vehicle under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988, have his/her application refused pursuant to section 92 of the Act (physical fitness) other than on the grounds of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol.

Under Section 92 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 the Secretary of State may refuse to issue a driving licence on the grounds of the applicant's medical fitness. Those who are currently barred from holding a licence are people with:

- i. uncontrolled epilepsy
- ii. severe mental disorder
- iii. liability to sudden attacks of giddiness or fainting (whether as a result of cardiac disorder or otherwise)
- iv. inability to read a registration plate in good light at 20.5 metres (with lenses if worn)
- v. other disabilities which are likely to cause the driving of vehicles by them to be a source of danger to the public

Medical evidence to support an application on any of these grounds will be required.

Concessionary Travel Eligibility Chart 2007



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