



# CRITERIA FOR TRANSPORT

## INTRODUCTION

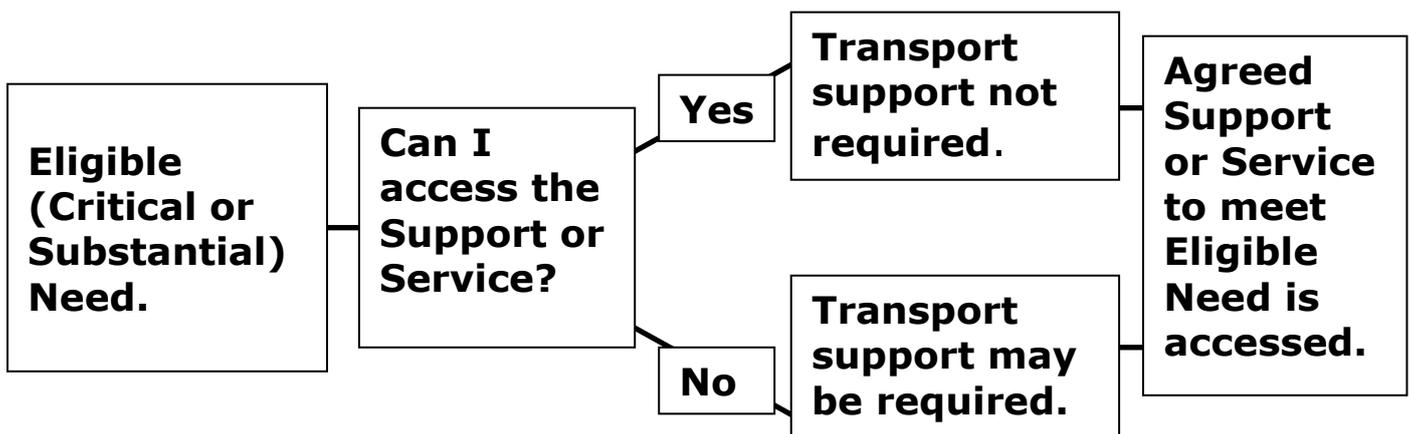
Transport in itself is not a social care need, however transport arrangements may be necessary to enable people with social care needs to access support and services that do meet those eligible social care needs. For this reason the purchase of transport is not precluded from personal budgets when support planning to meet eligible social care needs.

Whether transport may be a social care need requires Cornwall Council to be satisfied it is necessary to provide the service to meet an eligible need (see section 2 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970). This sits alongside the Revised Eligibility Guidance 2010 by which needs are assessed and eligibility is determined.

## NECESSITY FOR TRANSPORT

Once an eligible need has been identified through a needs assessment, the Support Plan will consider how a customer will meet those needs and physically access services or support. Transport will only be considered within the Support Plan once:

- an eligible social care need has been established,
- the support to meet this need is identified, and
- it is identified that without providing transport as part of the Support Plan this support cannot be accessed.



## **TRANSPORT FUNDED BY CORNWALL COUNCIL**

**Only where there is no alternative means of travel provision will your Support Plan include the use of money from your Personal Budget to pay and arrange transport to attend the agreed activity.**

Where transport is to be facilitated by Cornwall Council the completed Support Plan, taking a holistic, reasonable view of the individuals needs and their carer's needs, must be approved by a Senior Practitioner or Team Manager.

In order to identify if transport needs to be part of the Support Plan the checklist questions below need to be asked.

### **CHECKLIST – to help in the decision making process**

Some of this information will have been recorded in the assessment of eligible social care needs *getting out and about* and *informal support* sections. However, how you will get to the support will be assessed by asking the following questions:

1. How far is the support or service from your home?
  - a) Is the support or service identified nearest to your home that can appropriately meet your assessed need?
  
2. Can you walk or cycle to the service?
  - a) The help needed 'getting out and about' will have been discussed as part of your Assessment.
  - b) Being able to walk might mean by walking alone or with the assistance from someone else, e.g. using a buddying scheme or assistance from family, friends or a carer.
  
3. Can you use your own transport?
  - a) If you have:
    - your own motor vehicle
    - a vehicle obtained through the Motability Scheme
    - a specially adapted vehicleit is reasonable to be asked that this would be available for use.
  - b) It will not be acceptable for family members to claim priority over the use of such vehicles.

## Appendix 1

4. Can you arrange your own transport from an independent source and meet the cost of transport from any mobility allowance awarded to you?
  - a) Where mobility allowance has been awarded a reasonable proportion of it should be available for your transport needs in accessing support and services.
  - b) The actual amount will depend on individual needs and requirements but 70% is a suggested starting point.
  - c) You will need to think about other critical demands placed on the allowance.
  - d) If you are not in receipt of mobility allowance, but you feel you could be entitled to it, then support can be provided to make an application.
  
5. Can you use public transport?
  - a) This might be travelling independently or with assistance from someone else e.g. a buddying scheme, family, friends or a carer.
  - b) Do you have a bus pass? If not, could you be assisted to apply for one?
  - c) If an escort assistant is essential, are they eligible for a bus pass?
  - d) If you cannot currently use public transport services, could you do so following a period of reassurance, support, enablement and transport training?
  - e) Transport may be provided on a temporary basis and reviewed when you are able to use public transport.
  
6. Can you access transport with a carer, family member or friend?
  - a) Can a family member, friend or carer transport you?
  - b) Sharing transport with another person may be an option.
  
7. Do you live in a:
  - a) Residential or nursing home.
  - b) Supported Living Scheme.
  - c) Some other supported housing setting.

## **Appendix 1**

If you do Cornwall Council will expect the service provider to arrange your transport. Where this is not possible the issue of access to transport will be referred back to Cornwall Council.

### **OUTCOME**

Where the issue of how you will physically access a service is resolved by one of the above methods this should be recorded in the Support Plan.

Only where there is no alternative means of travel provision will your Support Plan include the use of money from your Personal Budget to pay and arrange transport to attend the agreed activity.

If you currently do not receive a personal budget the same criteria will apply for Cornwall Council to provide support for transport.

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