



Orkney Disability Forum

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Important Changes to Dial-a-Bus Services

As you may have heard through local media, we are having to make some changes to Dial-a-bus. This is because our main grant award comes from Orkney Islands Council's transport section and they have specified that as from 1st April 2016, some journeys will no longer qualify for subsidised travel.

How will this change what journeys we make?

Fortunately, we can still make all the journeys we did before but it will affect the cost of some fares. If you are using the bus to go shopping, visiting, to church, social clubs or fitness classes, etc. then your fares will not be affected and you can still use your local concessionary card to claim 2 single trips, or one return journey each week if you are eligible.

When will you pay more?

If you use the bus to go to college, work or make medical journeys, such as doctor's appointments, to see the dentist or any hospital clinics, you will now need to pay a higher rate.

You will also be unable to use your Orkney Islands Council concessionary travel card for these journeys.

| | Existing fares | Here are the new higher rate fares for each zone |
|--------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Zone A | £3.00 - | £3.90 |
| B | £4.50 - | £5.85 |
| C | £6.00 - | £7.80 |
| D | £8.00 - | £10.40 |

More information over the page

Is there any help if I cannot afford the extra fares?

Unfortunately, Orkney Disability Forum does not have a hardship fund to help out with the increased fares. We have advised Orkney College, Orkney Health and Care and NHS Orkney of these changes. If you feel you are unable to meet the extra cost of your fares, please speak to the college, your health provider or social worker and they may be able to advise whether you qualify for help. If in doubt, get in touch with us and we will point you in the right direction.

Still unsure of the changes?

We understand that this is a big change for some passengers and that it can be quite difficult to know how much your fares will be. If you are still unsure about how to changes will affect you, please come along to our public meeting. As well as members, we are inviting health professionals, social workers, councillors, carers and many others to ensure everyone can hear why we are having to make these changes and air any concerns they have.

Please phone us if you wish to book the bus on 871515.

Public Meeting
Wednesday 23rd March 2016
King Street Halls
7.00 pm

Yours sincerely



Hazel Aim
Manager