Please read these notes before completing your application form.

Who can apply for the English National Concessionary Travel pass using this form?
Any person who is a permanent resident of Somerset and has reached the qualifying age or qualifies because of their disability.

What is my qualifying age?
If you were born on or before 5 April 1950 your qualifying age is 60.

If you were born after 5 April 1950 the qualifying age for concessionary travel for women will be state pension age and for men it will be the pensionable age of a woman born on the same day.

If you were born on or after 6 April 1955 you will not qualify until age 65 or older, this is subject to future planned changes to the state pension age.

There is a ready reckoner which enables people affected by the pension age changes to see at what age they become eligible for their Travelpass. You can find this on our website: www.somerset.gov.uk/concessionary or www.direct.gov.uk and follow the links to state pension age, or contact Somerset County Council on 0845 345 9155.

Bus Pass
The bus pass provides the pass holder with free off peak travel on registered local bus services anywhere in England, between the hours of 9.30am and 11pm Monday to Friday and all day at weekends and bank holidays. However, the Somerset issued Travelpass also allows free travel from 9am on buses in Somerset. The pass does not cover travel on the Taunton Flyer Park & Ride, long distance coach services or any rail services.

Is there a cost?
Passes are issued free of charge. However there is a charge for replacement passes. If your pass is stolen, the above charge will be waived when a valid crime number is provided.

Community Transport
In Somerset you may be able to use your pass on certain types of journeys provided by community transport. Contact your local provider or ring Somerset County Council 0845 345 9155 for details or to request a leaflet.

Do I qualify because of my disability?
You may qualify if your disability is within one of the seven categories listed in the Transport Act 2000, as shown below:

- If you are blind or partially sighted.
- If you are profoundly or severely deaf.
- If you are without speech.
- If you have a disability, or have suffered an injury, that has a substantial or long-term effect on your ability to walk.
- If you have no arms or have long-term loss of use of both arms.
- If you have a learning disability that was present at birth or diagnosed during your early years. This means that you have a significantly reduced understanding of new or complex information, a difficulty in learning new skills and may be unable to cope independently.
- If you applied for a driving licence you would be refused because of a medical condition (epilepsy, severe mental disorder and liability to sudden attacks of giddiness or fainting). This does not include those who have had their licence refused/revoked through misuse of alcohol or drugs.

The disability should be permanent or have lasted at least 12 months, be likely to last 12 months or be likely to recur, and should have a substantial effect on the person’s ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

Disabled person’s companion pass
If you are only able to travel on public transport with the help of a carer, you may be eligible for a companion pass. This will entitle you and a companion to free travel within Somerset ONLY. You may qualify if you are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, Mobility Component at higher rate with Care Component at middle or higher rate, or Attendance Allowance at higher rate. If you are unsure whether you qualify please contact Somerset County Council on 0845 345 9155.
What must I include with my application form?

You must include a passport style photograph with your name and postcode clearly written on the back in block capitals.

You must include evidence of your age. We will accept a copy of one of the following:
- Pension card/letter
- Passport
- Birth certificate
- European travel insurance card
- NHS card (not NHS registration letter)
- Driving licence

You must include evidence of your permanent residence in Somerset. We will accept a copy of one of the following:
- Council tax bill
- Utility bill
- Electoral registration
- Bank statement
- TV licence
- Landline phone bill
- Driving licence

Proof of eligibility – Disabled Applicants

If you are blind or partially sighted
- Disabled registration card
- Letter from Social Services confirming registration as blind or partially sighted
- Evidence from an eye specialist, i.e. optometrist or consultant ophthalmologist, that the applicant is registered as blind or partially sighted.

If you are profoundly or severely deaf
- Disabled persons registration card
- Letter from Social Services confirming registration as profoundly or severely deaf
- An audiological report, or a report from an aural specialist that the applicant is registerable as profoundly or severely deaf.

If you are without speech
Unable to communicate orally in any language (does not include those whose speech is slow or difficult to understand because, for example, of a severe stammer).
- Disabled persons registration card
- Letter from Social Services confirming registration as disabled person
- Letter on official paper from a medical professional that applicant is without speech.

If you have a disability, or have suffered an injury, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on your ability to walk
- Disability Living Allowance with higher rate mobility component OR low rate mobility with middle or higher rate care component
- War pension with mobility supplement

If you have no arms or have long-term loss of the use of both arms
- Disabled Living Allowance with higher rate mobility component OR low rate mobility with middle or higher rate care component.
- Letter on official paper from a medical professional confirming the applicant has long-term loss of the use of both arms.

If you have a learning disability that was present at birth or diagnosed during your early years. This means that you have a significantly reduced understanding of new or complex information, a difficulty in learning new skills and may be unable to cope independently.
- Disability Living Allowance with higher rate mobility component OR low rate mobility with middle or higher rate care component.
- Letter from Social Services confirming registration with a learning disability.

If you applied for a driving licence you would be refused because of a medical condition.
- Letter from DVLA giving notice of refusal or withdrawal of licence.
- Letter on official paper from a medical professional confirming a medical condition that would prevent licence e.g:
  + Epilepsy
  + Severe mental disorder
  + Liability to sudden attacks of giddiness or fainting

Another medical condition that would cause a licence to be withdrawn or refused

Companion Element
If you are applying for the Travelpass plus companion because of disability you must include evidence of your disability. We only accept a copy of a Disability Living Allowance award letter showing that you receive the higher rate mobility component with middle or higher rate care component, or a copy of an Attendance Allowance award letter showing that you are on the higher rate.
Application form
for an English National Concessionary Travel Scheme Pass

Please complete this form in BLOCK CAPITALS, using Black Ink. Mark check boxes with a ✓

Your District/Borough

All applicants must be resident (sole or principal residence) in one of the following:
(Select your District/Borough) - to whom you pay your Council Tax.

☐ Mendip  ☐ Sedgemoor  ☐ South Somerset  ☐ Taunton Deane  ☐ West Somerset

Your Details

Please complete in block capitals

Title: ..................................  Last Name: .................................................................  Gender:  Female ☐  Male ☐

First Name: .............................  Middle Name(s): ...........................................  Date of birth: ........................

Address: ...........................................................................................................................................................................
...........................................................................................................................................................................................
...........................................................................................................................................................................................
......................................................................................................................................... Postcode: ................

Daytime telephone number: ...............................  Mobile Telephone Number: .................................

Eligibility

I confirm that I am applying under the following category: (please tick)

☐ Pensionable Age  ☐ Disabled person: (Please specify)
  ☐ Blind or partially sighted  ☐ Profoundly or severely deaf  ☐ Without speech
  ☐ Long term disability or injury affecting ability to walk  ☐ Without arms or long term loss of use of both arms
  ☐ Learning disability which must have started before adulthood  ☐ Person not permitted to drive on medical grounds
  ☐ Companion element required

Declaration

I certify that the information given on this form is correct and I am a permanent resident in Somerset. I understand that the authority is required by law to protect the public funds it administers. It may also share information provided to it with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds, in order to prevent and detect fraud.

Signature: .................................................................  Date: ............................................................

If you are unable to fill out the form yourself, someone else can do it for you, provided they state in what capacity they are doing so.

Securely attach your photo here

Please turnover to find out what to do next.
All applicants

Please tick to confirm documentation has been enclosed.

☐ A recent colour passport style photograph (name and postcode written on the reverse in block capitals).
☐ Proof of age i.e. a copy of Medical Card, Driving Licence, Passport.
☐ Proof of residence i.e. copy of Council Tax bill or utility bill.
☐ Proof of disability (if you are applying as a disabled applicant) See guidance notes.

Returning your form

Please return the completed application form to the following address:
Somerset County Council, PPC302, Transporting Somerset, County Hall, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4DY.
Be sure to attach copies of all the evidence required which includes:
• A colour passport style photograph with your name and postcode written in Block Capitals on the back.
• Photocopies of the proof of age and proof of Somerset residency (do not send the original documents).

Data Protection

The personal information that you supply to Somerset County Council will be stored in electronic form and/or paper files. This information, or data is subject to the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Voluntary Questions

About You - The following questions are asked as part of our commitment to equalities monitoring and will help us to ensure that we are reaching a wide range of people with different backgrounds and experiences. They are not used to identify individuals but may be used within the County Council for statistical, monitoring and service improvement purposes. Please answer as many questions as you feel comfortable with.

Equality Monitoring

Do you consider yourself to be from a Minority Ethnic Background?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Prefer not to say

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your age?  ☐ 0 - 17  ☐ 18-34  ☐ 35-64  ☐ 65+  ☐ Prefer not to say

What is your gender?  ☐ Female  ☐ Male  ☐ Transgender  ☐ Prefer not to say

To request this document in an alternative format, please call (01823) 356227

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