

Mobility Vehicles



Mobility Vehicles can give people with mobility impairments the freedom to access work and services, get out-and-about, and help to live independently in the community. This Fact Sheet is designed to provide information about mobility vehicles for those thinking about acquiring one and for those that already have access to a mobility vehicle.

Suitability

If you are thinking of acquiring a mobility vehicle it is useful to consider whether or not you have sufficient room in your property to store and charge it appropriately before getting one. It is also useful to consider whether or not your mobility needs would be better met using one, or a selection, of the mobility options outlined in the accompanying Fact Sheet 'Mobility in Islington'.

Accessing Mobility Vehicles

There are a number of ways you can gain access to a mobility vehicle:

ScotAbility

ScotAbility is an award-winning scheme that enables Islington and Camden residents with a mobility impairment to borrow mobility scooters or powered wheelchairs for up to 4 days at a time. There is currently no cost for membership of the scheme, which provides a home delivery and pick-up service, insurance and breakdown recovery and maintenance. The scheme also provides full training and minor home adaptations. The scheme offers a flexible and innovative approach to mobility, helping to increase independence and the quality of life of its members.

For more information or an application form phone 020 7974 2039/2420 or visit www.camden.gov.uk/scootability

Application Form

http://www.islington.gov.uk/DownloadableDocuments/TransportandStreets/Pdf/ScotAbility_Application.pdf

Motability

If you get a Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or the War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement you can use your allowance to lease or buy a car, or to buy a powered wheelchair or scooter. For more information contact Motability on 0845 456 4566 Minicom: 01279 632273 or visit www.motability.co.uk

Self-finance

You are also able to buy a mobility vehicle independently. There are many different types of mobility vehicle, all designed to meet different needs, so we recommend that you thoroughly research the market before you purchase a vehicle.

External Storage

HFI is committed to enabling tenants and residents who use or who would benefit from using mobility vehicles to do so more easily. It may be possible to have external storage facilities for mobility vehicles installed if you do not have the internal room to store a vehicle. The funding for this may come from:

- Islington Council, via Occupational Therapy. This option should be considered for people who own, or are considering owning, mobility vehicles. Those interested in this option should phone the Information and Access Team on 020 7527 2299.

A contact assessment can be done over the phone, after which an occupational therapist will carry out an assessment to decide if an adaptation would be suitable. If you would like to discuss with an occupational therapist in the first instance, call duty Occupational Therapy on 020 7527 5200

- A community mobility scheme – some schemes, such as ScootAbility, may fund minor home adaptations such as external storage equipment. The scheme will carry out an assessment when you apply to join. Based on this they will decide whether or not it is suitable to install aids or adaptations, such as external storage equipment
- The equipment may be paid for by the tenant or resident. An application will also need to be made to the relevant Area Housing Office requesting permission for the installation. Your Tenancy Management Advisor will be able to give you more advice about self-financing external storage installations so we recommend that you speak to them first. You can find a copy of the Application Form on the HFI website at:

Please see the Fact Sheet 'Guidance for People Seeking External Storage Equipment for a Mobility Vehicle' for a more detailed description of acquiring external storage facilities. This is available at your Area Housing Office or online at www.homesforislington.org.uk Your Tenancy Management Advisor is also able to send you a copy in the post upon request.

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