

## The new National Bus Concession. Your questions answered.



- Q.** How is the new national bus concession different to the current one?
- A.** From 1st April 2008, the new national bus concession will enable passholders to get free off-peak travel on local buses anywhere in England.
- Q.** When exactly is off-peak travel?
- A.** Off peak hours are 9.30am until 11.00pm on weekdays, and all day on weekends and bank holidays. These are the times the pass will be valid when you travel in other areas. Passes issued by Ryedale District Council are valid at all times except between 6.00am and 9.00am on weekdays for journeys starting within North Yorkshire and City of York only.
- Q.** What is the definition of a 'local' bus?
- A.** The definition of a 'local' bus will be self-evident in most cases, but in a few instances could include some longer distance buses and coach services where part of their route is registered as a local bus service. If in doubt, you can check with the operator or your local Council.
- Q.** Will I be able to enjoy free travel everywhere within the UK?
- A.** The concession only applies in England.
- Q.** Is it only applicable to buses?
- A.** The new concession applies just to bus travel but some authorities offer additional services.

Check with your local Council to find out exactly what services are covered.

- Q.** If I visit an area that offers additional services, will I be entitled to them?
- A.** Probably not. As a general rule, local Councils will only provide additional services for their own residents. Some Councils, however, may provide them to visitors. Check with the relevant travel authority in the area to which you intend to travel.
- Q.** I don't live in London, but I visit relatives there occasionally. Will I be able to enjoy the same benefits as a Freedom Pass holder if I travel there?
- A.** No. Only London Freedom Pass holders can enjoy the additional benefits paid for by the London Authorities. You will only receive off peak bus travel when visiting the capital.
- Q.** I'm finding all the differences in the different schemes confusing, what do I really need to know?
- A.** The new national pass entitles you to free off-peak local bus travel anywhere in England. This is the only service that is guaranteed. There may be additional services but you should check with the Council that issued your pass for more details of enhancements in your area.

For all concessionary fares enquiries please telephone 01653 600666 or visit our website at [www.ryedale.gov.uk](http://www.ryedale.gov.uk)

## England's 2008 bus concession explained

Find out more inside.



Department for  
**Transport**



## The North Yorkshire Concessionary Bus Pass is changing...



From 1st April 2008, if you are 60 or over, or eligible disabled and live in England, your bus pass is changing. The new pass will allow you to enjoy free off-peak travel on local buses anywhere in England.

In this leaflet you'll find information about the changes introduced by the National Bus Concession. There is also information about additional concessions available only in your local area. If there is anything else you need to know, don't hesitate to contact your local Council (contact details and website address are shown on the reverse) or visit [www.direct.gov.uk/buspass](http://www.direct.gov.uk/buspass)

The North Yorkshire Concessionary Fares Scheme provides additional benefits to residents of North Yorkshire and City of York. Use of the new pass is subject to the terms and conditions of the North Yorkshire Scheme.

Contact your local Council for full details of all the enhancements mentioned in this leaflet.

The Scheme makes provision for certain passholders to receive the free concession for a companion/carer travelling with them in North Yorkshire and City of York. The companion entitlement is also extended into some adjoining scheme areas.



"Sample Pass Age 60 or over"



"Sample Pass Disabled Person"

Passholders will unfortunately no longer be able to use their pass before 9am on weekdays to attend hospital appointments, due to the new pass being electronically encoded.

On some infrequent, mainly rural routes in North Yorkshire and City of York, concessionary travel is available on certain services before 9am on weekdays.

The new pass is a type known as a smart card. This means it is electronically encoded and can be read by bus ticket machines. In many parts of the country, you will simply show the pass to the driver when boarding the bus, as you do now. In some areas, you will be asked to present the pass to the machine for it to be read by the electronic ticket machine.

**Make the most of your bus pass by having access to up to date information about bus times**

Visit [www.northyorks.gov.uk/businfo](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/businfo) for route maps and timetables, or access the Journey Planner to create a great day out.

If you don't have access to the internet, pre-register for the County's Postal Timetable service to be introduced later this year.

Simply write to  
Postal Timetable Service,  
North Yorkshire County Council,  
County Hall, Northallerton,  
North Yorkshire, DL7 8AH

