

### What's New?

- From April 1 2008 a permanent resident that is aged 60 and above, or with eligible disabilities, is entitled to a free Bus Pass. The pass entitles its holder to at least free bus travel within England on most local public bus services from 9.30 a.m. until 11.00 p.m. weekdays and at any time at weekends and on bank holidays. New applicants for a Bus Pass must supply a recent passport-sized photograph of themselves and proof of their address and age or disability
- The Bus Pass is not valid for travel on special Bus services such as the minibus service provided by Age Concern.
- Some local authorities offer additional benefits to their own residents. These additional benefits will usually only apply for travel in the local area.
- Some local authorities offer alternatives to the Bus Pass such as warrants to buy Railcards at reduced prices.
- From 30 June 2008 Kent County Council has agreed to additional funding so that bus passes issued in Kent are valid for travel within Kent from 9.00 a.m.
- From 2 January 2009 Elderly Freedom Pass accepted on TFL services (buses, tube, trams and DLR) and English National Concessionary Bus Pass accepted on TFL bus services AT ANY TIME.

### Railcards

Railcards provide discounts of up to 30% off the cost of off-peak rail travel. They may be purchased from Rail Stations. The Senior Railcard is for people aged 60 or more and the Disabled Person's Railcard for people with certain disabilities. If one's local authority does not offer discounted Railcards, or if one has been issued with a Bus Pass, these cards may be bought by paying the full price.

For further information about Railcards:

- ask at any staffed National Rail Station
- telephone: National Rail enquiries: 08457 48 49 50
- or refer to: [www.railcard.co.uk](http://www.railcard.co.uk)

### Dartford Borough Council Residents

Dartford Council offers eligible residents a Warrant worth up to £10.50 towards the cost of a Senior or Disabled Person's Railcard. Residents can have either a Bus Pass or Railcard bought with a Warrant, but not both simultaneously.

From 30 June 2008 Kent County Council has agreed to additional funding so that bus passes issued in Kent are valid for travel within Kent from 9.00 a.m.

From 2 January 2009 English National Concessionary Bus Pass is accepted on TFL bus services AT ANY TIME.

For more information about Bus Passes and Rail Warrants:

- telephone: 01322 343001
- refer to: [www.dartford.gov.uk/buspass/](http://www.dartford.gov.uk/buspass/)
- or write to:

Dartford Borough Council  
Civic Centre  
Home Gardens  
Dartford

Kent  
DA1 1DR

## Sevenoaks District Council Residents

Sevenoaks offers no alternative to the Bus Pass.

For more information about Bus Passes:

- ask at the information desk in the Swanley Library building
- telephone: 01732 227000 or Minicom (text telephones only) 01732 227496
- e-mail: [information@sevenoaks.gov.uk](mailto:information@sevenoaks.gov.uk)
- refer to: [www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/transport\\_\\_streets/393.asp](http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/transport__streets/393.asp)
- or write to:  
Sevenoaks District Council,  
BUS PERMITS,  
Council Offices,  
Argyle Road,  
Sevenoaks,  
TN13 1HG

From 30 June 2008 Kent County Council has agreed to additional funding so that bus passes issued in Kent are valid for travel within Kent from 9.00 a.m.

From 2 January 2009 English National Concessionary Bus Pass is accepted on TFL bus services AT ANY TIME.

## London Borough of Bexley Residents

- Freedom Passes offer free travel on Transport For London's bus, tube, tram and DLR services at any time. Free travel is also available on many National Rail services between 9.30 a.m. and 4.30 a.m. the following day (Mon-Fri) and any time at weekends and bank holidays.
- There are no time restrictions for travel with Disabled Person's Freedom Passes.
- Discounted travel is available on Thames River services.
- Outside London, Freedom Passes act as England Bus passes and are only valid for travel on local public **bus** services between **9.30 a.m.** and **11 p.m.** Passes issued before April 2008 will require a special sticker to be affixed before they are valid for this purpose.
- A minority of disabled passes are issued at a borough's discretion. Under government legislation such passes will not be validated to serve as England Bus Passes.

Passes for the elderly are issued free from main Post Offices.

For Disabled Person's Freedom Passes phone 020 8836 7436.

For more information:

- telephone: 020 8836 7498
- refer to: [www.freedompass.org](http://www.freedompass.org)
- e-mail: [buspasses@bexley.gov.uk](mailto:buspasses@bexley.gov.uk)
- or write to:  
Bexley Council  
Civic Offices  
Broadway  
Bexleyheath  
Kent  
DA6 7LB

## General

Age Concern operates low cost Shopmobility Services, Shopping Trips, and Door-to-Door Transport with disabled access for elderly or disabled clients in the RACDV area within Sevenoaks, Dartford and Bexley, plus a wide range of other services for the elderly and disabled. Free information sheets are available on request or contact the RACDV for further details.