

Information on Companion Passes

Local authority	Medical criteria	Charge	Comments
Nottinghamshire	Blind or have severe learning disabilities	No charge for the pass but restrict travel to journeys starting or wholly within the county anyone travelling back from a neighbouring county has to pay for the companions travel	Refusing to issue to under 5's as no fare would be required by the operator for the child and when we do reimburse for concessions it is based on adult fares so the operator could be being paid over generously for these passes.
4 UAs that make up the former Avon area (B&NES, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire)		No charge	
Southampton City Council	Unable to travel alone at any time	No charge Travel only applies if the journey starts within the city	We have recently had several people asked to have the companion removed from their pass as bus drivers are refusing travel if they do not have the companion with them. With regards to children we do not issue to under 5's 3% of all passholders have a companion pass
Essex – decision lies with district (Harlow does not issue)	Not clear	No charge	

**APPENDIX B**

Hertfordshire (10 district councils)	Each district varies	No charge	Some districts only provide to blind and wheelchair users other through an individual medical assessment
Nottingham City Council			Approximately 4,000 companion passes
Tendring District			27,666 passes of which 213 are companion passes
East Devon			Less than 1% of all passholders have a companion pass