



Driving Mobility

# Driving Mobility centres

Helping you with driving, accessibility  
and independent living





Co-ordinating a network of **driving and mobility assessment centres** for people with restricted mobility



**Driving Mobility**

“ Everyone at the North Wales Driving Mobility centre have been amazing – they have really empowered me! Driving has completely changed my life

**Shari Elvins**

Being able to access a car either as a driver or passenger is invaluable to many – especially if you have restricted mobility or a disability. However, driving safely and comfortably may be a challenge along with finding the most suitable accessible vehicle or adapted controls.

This is why the charity Driving Mobility was set up – to coordinate 21 independent driving and mobility assessment centres across the UK. Many with outreach facilities, these centres are supported by the Department for Transport and include independent charities and NHS departments. They provide professional information and assessment so disabled, young and elderly people can gain or retain the ability to drive and maintain their personal independence.

# Driving services

## How can we help you?

At each centre, you will find driving assessment services and a range of additional support to help with your independence. The driving services on offer include:

- An assessment of your ability to drive safely and comfortably
- Recommendations if you need your vehicle adapted in order to drive
- Assessment and advice if you need to drive from your wheelchair or need to travel in your wheelchair as a passenger
- Advice and guidance for drivers and passengers if you have restricted mobility and need specialist seating in your vehicle or need help getting into/out of your vehicle
- Assessment and advice on how to load and transport your wheelchair or mobility scooter in your vehicle
- Advice and assessment for motorcycle and heavy goods vehicle drivers
- Minibus and Wheelchair Accessible Minibus Driver Training (MIDAS)
- Minibus and Wheelchair Accessible Minibus Passenger Assistant Training (PATs)



## How do I access these services?

Anyone with a mobility challenge who is seeking support with assisted driving or independent mobility can visit a Driving Mobility centre. You can self-refer by contacting the nearest centre or by following the recommendation of a clinician such as a GP or Occupational Therapist. Many of our service users are signposted from the DVLA, Motability and the Police. When you contact a centre your needs will be initially assessed and an appointment arranged.

## How much does a driving assessment cost?

The cost of a driving assessment can vary. Your chosen centre can provide further details. The cost will depend on whether you are self-referring or have been signposted from another organisation or healthcare professional. Other services such as mobility scooter assessments or equipment loading advice tends to be lower in cost and some sessions are free.



# Driving services

## What will happen when I visit a centre?

All the professionals at each centre will provide a calm and reassuring atmosphere for you. Attending a driving assessment is not like taking a driving test! You will be supported by caring and understanding staff who will put you at ease during the process.

An in-car assessment will take place in one of the centre's adapted cars or wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAVs). You will be asked to drive on local private and public roads with an Approved Driving Instructor and a Clinician. They will assess all aspects of your driving including medical fitness, vision, awareness, reactions, decision-making and physical ability to operate controls. Assessments may vary in relation to individual client circumstances and the facilities at each centre – you may also be assessed on a static driving simulator and/or undertake tests carried out by a Clinician. At the end of an assessment you will receive verbal advice and a written report.

This information can then be used in a variety of ways. For example, if the DVLA requested that you have a driving assessment, then the details will be sent to them so your driving licence status can be confirmed. You may use the information to seek an appropriate accessible vehicle or adapted controls – centres can signpost you to trustworthy vehicle convertors. In some circumstances, more driver tuition is recommended with subsequent assessments to evaluate progress and ability.

**The ultimate aim of assessment services at a Driving Mobility centre is to ensure you can enjoy driving safely and comfortably.**

## Who will help me at each centre?

Each centre is part of the Driving Mobility network, nevertheless every organisation operates independently with different services. This means that each team includes a variety of skilled professionals, however every centre employs Approved Driving Instructors (ADIs), Clinicians and Administrative staff. You may also have access to nurses, vehicle technicians and volunteers.

## Who can we help?

Driving Mobility centres provide assessments, advice and support to a diverse range of people, of all ages, who have restricted mobility or a disability. Commonly service users have:

- A medical condition that may impact their ability to drive safely
- A disability that may require special adaptations to a vehicle
- Concerns about their standard of driving due to old age
- Disabled children who need specialist car seating
- A need for a Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV)
- A wish to begin, or return to driving following an illness, injury or accident

# Personal **mobility** services

## How can I be helped if I do not use a car?

In addition to driving assessments and guidance, some centres can provide other services for wider independence including:

- Information and advice regarding all forms of accessible travel
- Wheelchair, powered wheelchair and mobility scooter assessments for adults and children
- Guidance regarding specialist car seats for disabled children
- Bugzi paediatric powerchair assessments and loans via the MERU charity
- Help and support for air travel with a disability – TryB4uFly service





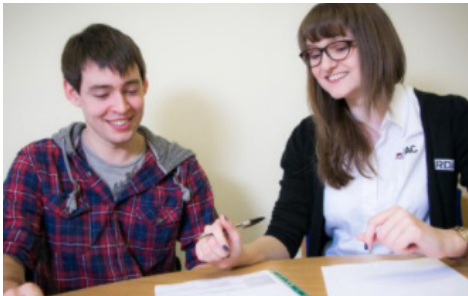
## What services are there for car passengers?

Centres can provide passenger assessments which assist with several challenges including:

- Difficulties getting in and out of a car
- Travelling safely in a vehicle in your wheelchair
- Loading and stowage of equipment such as wheelchairs and mobility scooters

“ The Bugzi means my daughter Olive can move independently for the first time. I can't rate the assessment centre highly enough

**Rhys Corkwood, Occupational Therapist**



# How do I find a centre?

There are 79 locations across the UK where you can access Driving Mobility services – either at a main centre or an outreach facility.

The easiest way to find your nearest Driving Mobility centre is to enter your postcode at:

[drivingmobility.org.uk/find-a-centre](http://drivingmobility.org.uk/find-a-centre)

or contact Driving Mobility:

**0800 559 3636**

[info@drivingmobility.org.uk](mailto:info@drivingmobility.org.uk)

[drivingmobility.org.uk](http://drivingmobility.org.uk)



**Driving and  
Mobility Centre**

**West of England**



**QEF**  
queen elizabeth's  
foundation for  
disabled people





# Driving Mobility



# Our assessment centres

## Belfast

### Northern Ireland Mobility Centre (NIMC)

Disability Action, Portside Business Park,  
189 Airport Road West, Belfast BT3 9ED

☎ 02890 297877

✉ mobilitycentre@disabilityaction.org

🗎 disabilityaction.org/services-and-projects/driving/

**Local outreach centres at:** Ballymena, Carrickfergus, Coleraine, Downpatrick, Dungannon, Enniskillen, Londonderry, Newry, Omagh

## Birmingham

### Regional Driving Assessment Centre (RDAC)

Patricks Farm, Meriden Road,  
Hampton in Arden, B92 0LT

☎ 0300 300 2240

✉ info@rdac.co.uk

🗎 rdac.co.uk/services

**Local outreach centres at:** Aylesbury, Cannock, Hull, Leamington Spa, Leicester, Northampton, Oxford, Shrewsbury, Wolverhampton, Worcester

## Bodelwyddan

### North Wales Mobility and Driving Assessment Service (for North and Mid Wales)

Disability Resources Centre, Glan Clwyd Hospital, Bodelwyddan, Denbighshire, LL18 5UJ

☎ 01745 584858

✉ mobilityinfo@btconnect.com

🗎 wmdas.co.uk

**Local outreach centres at:** Chester, Newtown

## Bristol

### Driving and Mobility Centre (West of England) CIC

The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Fishponds,  
Bristol, BS16 2QQ (BS16 2NB for Sat Nav)

☎ 01179 659353

✉ mobserv@drivingandmobility.org

🗎 drivingandmobility.org

**Local outreach centres at:** Sparkford, Weymouth, Yeovil



# Driving Mobility

## Cardiff

### South Wales Mobility and Driving Assessment Service (for South and West Wales)

Rookwood Hospital, Fairwater Road,  
Llandaff, Cardiff, CF5 2YN

☎ 02920 555130

✉ info@wddac.co.uk

📞 wmdas.co.uk

**Local outreach centre at:** Pembroke Dock

## Carshalton

### QEF Mobility Services

1 Metcalfe Avenue, Carshalton,  
Surrey, SM5 4AW

☎ 02087 701151

✉ mobility@qef.org.uk

📞 qef.org.uk/our-services/qef-  
mobility-services

**Local outreach centres at:** Leatherhead,  
Worthing

## Chester

### Chester DriveAbility

Off Mannings Lane (North), Chester,  
CH2 1PR (CH2 4EU for Sat Nav)

☎ 01745 584858

✉ mobilityinfo@btconnect.com

📞 wmdas.co.uk

No local outreach centres

## Colchester

### East Anglian Driveability

Unit 7 Wakes Hall Business Centre, Wakes  
Colne, Colchester, CO6 2DY

☎ 01787 222873

✉ kimb@eastangliandrivability.org.uk

📞 eastangliandrivability.org.uk

**Local outreach centres at:** Campsea Ashe,  
Chelmsford

## Derby

### Derby DrivAbility

Kingsway, Derby, DE22 3LZ

☎ 01332 371929

✉ dhft.driving@nhs.net

📞 derbyhospitals.nhs.uk/about/  
depts/drivability

**Local outreach centres at:** Newark

## Edinburgh

### Scottish Driving Assessment Service

SMART Centre, Astley Ainslie Hospital,  
Edinburgh, EH9 2HL

☎ 01315 379192

✉ lothian.scottishdrivingassessment  
service@nhs.net

📞 smart.scot.nhs.uk/driving-assessment

No local outreach centres

# Our assessment centres


## Exeter

### Managed by Cornwall Mobility

Basepoint, Yeoford Way, Marsh Barton Trading Estate, Exeter, EX2 8LB

 **01872 254920**

 [info@cornwallmobility.co.uk](mailto:info@cornwallmobility.co.uk)

 [cornwallmobility.co.uk/how-wehelp/our-assessment-services/](https://cornwallmobility.co.uk/how-wehelp/our-assessment-services/)

No local outreach centres

## Leeds

### William Merritt Disabled Living Centre

Aire House, 100 Town Road, Rodley, Leeds, LS13 1HP

 **01133 508989**

 [info@wmdlc.org](mailto:info@wmdlc.org)

 [wmdlc.org](https://wmdlc.org)

**Local outreach centre at:** York

## Maidstone

### South East DriveAbility

First Floor, Aylesford Logistics Centre, Bellingham Way, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 6XS

 **03000 134886**

 [kcht.sedriveability@nhs.net](mailto:kcht.sedriveability@nhs.net)

 [kentcht.nhs.uk/service/southeast-driveability/](https://kentcht.nhs.uk/service/southeast-driveability/)

**Local outreach centres at:** Uckfield, Westham, Thanington, Greenhithe

## Manchester

### Regional Driving Assessment Centre (RDAC)

AJ Bell Stadium, 1 Stadium Way, Barton-upon-Irwell, Salford, Greater Manchester, M30 7EY

 **0300 300 2240**

 [info@rdac.co.uk](mailto:info@rdac.co.uk)

 [rdac.co.uk/services/](https://rdac.co.uk/services/)

**Local outreach centres at:** Accrington, Ashton-under-Lyne, Scunthorpe

## Newcastle

### North East Drive Mobility

Walkergate Park Centre for Neuro-rehabilitation and Neuro-psychiatry, Benfield Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 4QD

 **0191 2875090**

 [northeast.drivemobility@ntw.nhs.uk](mailto:northeast.drivemobility@ntw.nhs.uk)

 [ntw.nhs.uk/mobility](https://ntw.nhs.uk/mobility)

**Local outreach centre at:** Penrith

## Sheffield

### William Merritt Centre Sheffield

SOAR Works Enterprise Centre, 14 Knutton Road, Parsons Cross, Sheffield, S5 9NU

 **01143 039030**

 [info@wmdlc.org](mailto:info@wmdlc.org)

 [wmdlc.org](https://wmdlc.org)

No local outreach centres



# Driving Mobility

## Southampton

### Wessex DriveAbility

Leornain House, Kent Road, Portswood,  
Southampton, SO17 2LJ

☎ 02380 554100

✉ enquiries@wessexdriveability.org.uk

📞 wessexdriveability.org.uk

**Local outreach centres at:** Basingstoke,  
Ferndown, Newport, Isle of Wight, Salisbury

## St Helens

### North West Driving Assessment Service

Fleet House, Pye Close, Haydock,  
St Helens, Lancashire, WA11 9SJ

☎ 01942 483713

✉ mobility.centre@bridgewater.nhs.uk

📞 bridgewater.nhs.uk/northwestwide/  
northwestdrivingassessmentservice/

**Local outreach centres at:** Belle Vale,  
Bootle, Preston

## Thetford

### East Anglian DriveAbility

2 Napier Place, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 3RL

☎ 01842 753029

✉ mail@eastangliandriveability.org.uk

📞 eastangliandriveability.org.uk

**Local outreach centres at:** Colchester,  
Lowestoft, Kings Lynn, Bodham North, Norfolk,  
Peterborough, Spalding

## Truro

### Cornwall Mobility

North Buildings, Royal Cornwall Hospital,  
Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3LQ

☎ 01872 254920

✉ info@cornwallmobility.co.uk

📞 cornwallmobility.co.uk/how-we-  
help/our-assessment-services/

**Local outreach centres at:** Exeter, Holsworthy,  
Launceston, Liskeard, Penzance, Plymouth

## Welwyn Garden City

### Herts Ability

The Woodside Centre, The Commons,  
Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire,  
AL7 4DD

☎ 01707 324581

✉ customerservice@hertsability.org.uk

📞 hertsability.org.uk/driving-centre/

**Local outreach centres at:** Dunstable,  
South Oxhey



**Driving Mobility**

## What is the role of Driving Mobility as a charity?

Driving Mobility is the umbrella charity which oversees all the independent Mobility Centres. It ensures there are common standards, promotes good practice, offers training and education and works closely with other organisations such as the Department for Transport, the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency and Motability.

The respected charity CEO, Edward Trehwella, works closely with several highly experienced board members and trustees who collectively bring together an unequalled wealth of knowledge regarding assisted driving, accessible travel and mobility issues.

**0800 559 3636**

[info@drivingmobility.org.uk](mailto:info@drivingmobility.org.uk)  
[drivingmobility.org.uk](http://drivingmobility.org.uk)

**#mydrivingmobility**



**Find your local centre at:**  
[drivingmobility.org.uk/find-a-centre](http://drivingmobility.org.uk/find-a-centre)



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