

Dial-a-Ride local Bus Service

Dial-a-Ride is a door-to-door transport service designed for anyone who finds it difficult or impossible, for whatever reason, to use ordinary public transport, and who live in an area served by ***Dial-a-Ride***. Anybody can use this service, if they have difficulty, or discomfort, using bus services. They do not have to be registered disabled or a wheelchair user. For example, one might have difficulty climbing steps onto buses or be unable to walk to the bus stop.

The service uses specially adapted vehicles to carry passengers with or without wheelchairs. Each vehicle is equipped with a passenger lift or ramp, and has steps and handrails fitted as standard to assist wheelchair and walking frame users.

Firstly, one needs to register, by telephoning the local ***Dial-a-Ride*** scheme and requesting a registration form. Simply complete and return it.

Once the scheme has notified that you are registered, you can call again to make a booking. The minibus will collect you from your door and take you to your destination. Bookings are allocated on a first come, first served basis. So early booking is always advised. Block bookings may also be made in some schemes.

In some areas, the buses only cover specific routes or destinations. However, in other areas, they are more flexible in a similar manner to taxis.

Fares are similar to bus fares. You pay the driver, just as you would on a normal bus or taxi.

It should be noted that this service is not designed for transport to and from hospital appointments or day centres. These trips may be arranged via your hospital, doctor or Social Services.

At the time of writing, **Dial-a-Ride** services in Hampshire are operated by the following operators:

Alton	Basingstoke Dial-a-Ride	01256 462 101
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East Hampshire	AMK	01428 751 675
Eastleigh	Eastleigh Community Services	02380 902 450 or 02380 902 432
Fareham	Fareham Community Action	01329 515 224
Gosport	Fareham Community Action	01329 515 224
New Forest	Community First	0845 602 4326
Rushmoor	Rushmoor Voluntary Services	0845 602 4135
Romsey	Southern Test Valley Voluntary Transport Scheme	01794 521 515
Winchester	Winchester Area Community Action	01962 852 602

Proof read by DG on 19th June 2007

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