



Date issued: ## October 2020

FoI request

I am writing in response to your Freedom of Information request. Your request has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and our information access policy.

You asked for the following information:

- Could you please advise how many applications, re-applications, renewals and appeals which were made between 1st August 2019 and 1st October 2020 for disability bus pass / disability companion bus pass where 'criteria have not been met'.
- In particular those who have applied under section 6A cognitive impairment, a person who would be refused a licence to drive a motor vehicle under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988, pursuant to section 92 of that Act (physical fitness) other than on the ground of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol. These would include individuals who need to take regular medication to control long term / permanent mental health conditions such as bi-polar, schizophrenia as examples which the medications render the individual unable to drive.
- Following on from a request of evidence for an individual's condition, how is the criteria assessed which allows for a decision to be made by TFW to support or reject an application.

Having reviewed your questions, we are able to provide the following information:

The 22 councils in Wales manage concessionary travel schemes under the Transport Act (2000). Councils agreed common criteria to assess eligibility for disabled persons' travel cards described in <https://trc.cymru/eligibility>.

This document describes that an application may be made on the grounds of that the applicant has been refused a licence to drive a motor vehicle under Part III of the Road Traffic Act 1988, pursuant to section 92 of that Act (physical fitness) other than on the ground of persistent misuse of drugs or alcohol.

Where an application is made on these grounds, the applicant's council will assess eligibility, and may ask for documentary evidence such as an official letter or a meeting with the applicant. TfW does not assess eligibility in these cases.

TfW has information on the applications made via the tfw.wales/travelcards website from mid-September 2019:

- No renewals have been rejected by TfW where a disabled person previously held a green bus pass and asked for a new-style card.
- There are currently 10,601 active applicants who have applied for a new disabled person's travel card via the online portal; of these 456 have been rejected based on the evidence provided (on any grounds - not just because the applicant has been refused a driving licence).



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This is not a complete picture, however. New applications are often made in person in council offices and may be assessed before they are entered into any systems, and appeals processes are handled by councils. You should therefore approach your council to determine complete statistics.

I hope this information is of use to you.

Yours sincerely,

Transport for Wales