



The Leicestershire and Rutland
VISUALLY IMPAIRED COUNCIL

With reference to the recommendations being proposed for future travel concessions for disabled people, I wish to raise the following:

1. I am concerned that there has been, as far as I am aware, no consultation with disabled people on these proposals.

2. With regard to the recommendation:

Daily life begins for everyone, including disabled people, before 9.30 AM. Hospital appointments, Doctors appointments, Activity and day classes, further education and work are just a few examples.

There are some areas where the only buses to towns run before 9.30AM

For a disabled person it is easier to use the train rather than bus. Sight impaired wheelchair users for instance would find it impossible to travel by bus.

Assistance is given to disabled people at train stations; there is no such assistance at bus stops.

Finally I would like to add that Leicestershire at the moment has a travel concession scheme for disabled people to be proud of, please think very hard before you reduce it. To a disabled person independence is something we struggle to achieve, with the present travel concession scheme we can go some way in achieving it.

Lynda Belton
Chairman Visually Impaired Council