



THE THREE SHIRES MEDICAL PRACTICE

Colerne, Marshfield, Pucklechurch and Wick Surgeries

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GIVING UP DRIVING

Having to give up driving is not easy because access to a car provides independence and mobility, especially as we are in a rural area. You may have decided yourself that you are no longer safe to drive, or you may have been told by your doctor. This leaflet is here to help you with information and how to find alternative transport.

Why do I need to stop driving?

Any professional that tells you to stop driving would have thought long and hard before doing this. They only advise you to stop driving if they are certain that it is no longer safe for you to drive.

They may have also referred you for a driving assessment. **It is important you don't drive until the assessment is complete** and you have been told it is safe for you to drive again.

As a general guide it may be time to give up driving if:

- You feel less confident, and worry more, about driving than you used to
- You get lost on roads that you know well
- Your reactions are slower than they used to be
- Your eyesight is getting worse
- You have had a number of near misses lately
- Your passengers are concerned about your driving
- You have a medical problem that might affect your driving.

If I have been told I need a driving assessment, what are my next steps?

You will be referred to the Driving and Mobility Centre, that will send you a form to complete. Once you have sent this back, they will book an appointment for you. The current wait is about four months for an appointment.

On the day of the assessment the appointment will take about 3 hours and will consist of:

- paper-based task,
- basic physical assessment
- simple vision tests
- a driving assessment.

For any questions, please call the centre on 0117 965 9353.

HOW DO I GET AROUND?

As we are in a rural area, transport is difficult but there are some options.

Kingswood Community Transport

Kingswood Community Transport is a charity that provides demand-responsive transport for the residents of South Gloucestershire and Bristol. You need to Register before using this service.



www.kingswoodct.org.uk/



01179 616 016

Green Community Travel

Friendly, low cost and easy to access transport. A community run service with discounts for bus pass holders. This service covers Pucklechurch, Yate, Chipping Sodbury and surrounding areas. You need to Register before using this service.



www.greencommunitytravel.co.uk/



01454 228 706

Link

Link schemes are voluntary groups which offer a transport service to local people in need because they are elderly, disabled, single parents, or perhaps temporarily in need due to illness. This service is for patients in Wiltshire.



www.communityfirst.org.uk/transport/link/



01380 722 475

WESTlink

WESTlink is a different type of bus service which operates in the most of the West of England, outside of Bristol and Bath city centres. It runs without a fixed timetable or route and can be booked by people through the WESTlink app or by phone. This is for patients living in South Gloucestershire.



<https://travelwest.info/westlink/>



01174 578 561

E-ZEC

The patient transport service provides planned, non-emergency transport for patients to NHS hospitals and clinics. It is only available for eligible patients for medical reasons.



<https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/health-and-care/health-advice-and-support/patient-transport-services/>



0300 777 6688

Buses

For more information: <https://bustimes.org/>

Bus No	To	From	Areas Covered	Provider
525	Emersons Green	Yate	Pucklechurch	Stagecoach West
532	Keynsham	Yate	Pucklechurch	Eurocoaches
620	Stroud	Bath	Pucklechurch, Wick	Stagecoach West
35	Marshfield	Kingswood	Wick, Marshfield	Faresaver
635	Chippenham	Marshfield	Marshfield, Colerne	Faresaver
636	Chippenham	Marshfield	Marshfield, Colerne	Faresaver
228	Bath	Bath	Colerne	Faresaver