## Eligibility for driving Four Towns & Vale Link Community Transport’s Minibuses

## Four Towns & Vale Link Community Transport registered drivers, and all drivers nominated for training by a User Group should:

### Be over the age of 23. Drivers over 70 must have permission to continue driving a Minibus from their doctor and insurance company.

### Have held a full car driving licence for at least three year with entitlement to drive a minibus not for hire or reward (category D1).

### Never have been convicted of a serious motoring offence no matter when this occurred.

### If you have had more than three penalty points endorsed on their driving licence over the last five years you must let us know, and we will make a discretionary decision.

### Not suffer from diabetes, epilepsy, heart condition or any other physical / mental infirmity which could impair their ability to drive.

## Four Towns & Vale Link Community Transport are grateful to South Gloucestershire Council who have agreed to train any volunteer who wishes to drive a Four Towns & Vale Link Community Transport minibus. We also acknowledge the help of The Mall, Cribbs Causeway, for providing indoor facilities for theory training and the use of their coach park for off-road training. Should a User Group wish to make a donation towards administration and vehicle costs this would be most acceptable.

### Obtaining a Minibus driving certificate

### Only persons holding a current MiDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme) Certificate may drive a Minibus. To obtain one, you must pass two examinations. These take a day of training to complete:

### Theory examination

Several people at a time can do this part. It takes place at one of South Gloucestershire’s locations and covers:

### Inspection of driving licence, completion of forms

### Basic knowledge of the Highway Code

### Minibus regulations, legal responsibilities

### Familiarisation with vehicle and safety checks

### Practical examination

This involves:

### Assessment of driving skills off-road

### Assessment of driving skills on-road

## Duration

## A MiDAS Certificate is valid for three years, after which you will be invited to take a refresher course and renew it.

## Further training, including escort duties, passenger assistance

1. Drivers and Escorts who will be dealing with people with special needs are encouraged to attend a Passenger Assistance Training Session which can be arranged with South Gloucestershire