

Keeping on the Move

Help the Aged is seeking the views of older people on driving as later this year the Government will be considering whether to change the licensing regime for older drivers.

1 Which types of transport do you use to get out and about?

(Tick any of the following used in last year)

- Walking
- Cycling
- Driving
- Passenger in car
- Bus
- Train
- Taxi/minicab
- Community transport
- Electric scooter
- Other

2 In terms of driving, have you:

- access to a car you can drive?
- never driven?
- recently given up driving?
- given up driving more than three months ago?

3 If you were or currently are a driver, have you adjusted your driving as you have got older (e.g. avoided long journeys; avoided driving on motorways; avoided driving at busy times; avoided driving in bad weather or at night, or taken extra care when turning right at junctions)?

Yes No

4 If you are a driver, how often do you use your car?

- every day or most days?
- times a week?
- less than once a week but at least once a month?
- less than once a month?

5 If you are a driver, would you use your car less if:

(a) public transport and/or travel concessions were improved?

yes no don't know

(b) if you had access to better or more information to help you use public transport?

yes no don't know

(c) if you had access to support that would help you use public transport (e.g. buddy schemes to help you use public transport for the first time)?

yes no don't know

6 All licensed drivers in the UK – regardless of age – are required to notify the DVLA if they suffer from any medical conditions that would affect their ability to drive.

Is this statement:

true?

false?

don't know

7 In the UK, at the age of 70 and every three years thereafter, all drivers are required to renew their licences and pay a fee of £6. What is your view of this system?

(a) The present system works reasonably well

agree disagree don't know

(b) The present system is discriminatory

agree disagree don't know

(c) The present system encourages under-reporting of health problems and allows some older drivers who are medically unfit to drive to slip through the net

agree disagree don't know

(d) The age of renewal should be altered to 75

agree disagree don't know

(e) The present system allows personal discretion in assessing ability to carry on driving

agree disagree don't know

(f) The present system has the merit of involving GPs when appropriate

agree disagree don't know

8 Do you agree/disagree that a compulsory driving test should be introduced for older drivers?

disagree

agree

don't know

9 Do you agree/disagree that a compulsory medical test should be introduced for older drivers?

disagree

agree

don't know

10 Do you agree/disagree that regular medical or driving tests would be acceptable if they applied to drivers of all ages?

disagree

agree

don't know

11 If medical or driving tests were introduced for older drivers, do you think it would be acceptable for older people to be charged a small amount (perhaps £6) for these tests?

disagree

agree

don't know

12 People should be assessed by their ability to drive rather than their age.

Do you:

- disagree
- agree
- don't know

13 What should the Department for Transport, the DVLA and local authorities be doing to help and support older drivers to keep on driving as long and safely as possible?

(Tick any of the following suggestions with which you agree)

- providing subsidised refresher courses
- funding more research on the effects of medical conditions and medications on the ability to drive for people of all ages
- abolishing the current European Driving Licence Directive that obliges drivers of minibuses to take a medical on reaching the age of 70
- issuing a directive that GPs and pharmacists should be required to advise patients when issuing a prescription that could affect ability to drive

14 Do you have any general comments? For example, what does driving mean to your quality of life and what would be the impact of not being able to drive any more? If you have given up driving, what this has meant to you and your life? What sort of journeys do you now find impossible or difficult to make?

Answer: _____

15 Do you live in Wales, England, Scotland or Northern Ireland?

England Scotland Wales Northern Ireland

16 Do you live in:

an urban area? a rural area? The Valleys (Wales only)?

17 Please indicate your age:

under 59 60–69 70–79 80–89 Over 90

18 Are you:

male? female?

19 Where do you live?

State either: first part of post code _____
(or) name of county _____

20 Would you be interested in information about:

Help the Aged campaigns?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Help the Aged insurance products?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Policy work on transport?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Becoming a media spokesperson for Help the Aged?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Your responses will remain confidential but if you would like to be kept informed of our work on transport, please provide your contact details below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

For more copies of this survey, email david.sinclair@helptheaged.org.uk or call 020 7239 7562. Alternatively feel free to make your own copies. Please return this survey by 7 September 2007 to David Sinclair, Keeping on the Move Survey, Policy Department, Help the Aged, FREEPOST LON18932, London N1 9BR.

Fighting for disadvantaged older people in the UK and overseas, **WE WILL:**

COMBAT POVERTY wherever older people's lives are blighted by lack of money, and cut the number of preventable deaths from hunger, cold and disease

REDUCE ISOLATION so that older people no longer feel confined to their own home, forgotten or cut off from society

CHALLENGE NEGLECT to ensure that older people do not suffer inadequate health and social care, or the threat of abuse

DEFEAT AGEISM to ensure that older people are not ignored or denied the dignity and equality that are theirs by right

PREVENT FUTURE DEPRIVATION by improving prospects for employment, health and well-being so that dependence in later life is reduced