

Shopmobility

Shopmobility is a scheme which lends manual wheelchairs, powered wheelchairs and powered scooters to members of the public with limited mobility, to enable them to shop.



Shropshire has many Shopmobility centres:

Oswestry

Address: Oswestry community action, Qube, Queens building, Oswald Road,
Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 1RB
Telephone number: 01691 656 882
Email: a.brown@qube-oca.org.uk

Shrewsbury

Address: The Raven Meadows Multi Storey car park, Raven Meadows, Shrewsbury, SY1 1PL
Telephone number: 01743 236 900
Email: shopmobshrews@freeuk.com

Telford

Address: Red Oak car park, Telford shopping centre, Telford, TF3
Telephone number: 01952 238 005

For information on funding check out www.charitycommission.co.uk

For more information, call:
01743 444051

Shropshire Wheelchair and Posture Service
Shropshire Rehabilitation Centre
Lancaster Road
Harlescott
Shrewsbury
SY1 3NJ
Email: Shropcom.swaps@nhs.net

Private Purchase Advice

Patient Information:

This leaflet provides advice and support to patients about **Private Purchase Advice** from **Shropshire Wheelchair and Posture Service (SWaPS)**



What SWaPS do and don't provide?



SWaPS provide wheelchairs for people who are in need of a permanent wheelchair for **indoor** use.

If you require a wheelchair to use mainly outdoors or one off occasions, e.g. holidays then you will need to privately purchase or hire one.

SWaPS also don't provide transit wheelchairs into care home, this is the care home's responsibility, if you require a copy of the policy, then please contact SWaPS or www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk



Types of wheelchairs:

- **Transit** - Wheelchair with little wheels, needs someone to push the wheelchair user.
- **Self Propelling** - Wheelchair with large wheels which enables the wheelchair user to maneuver themselves around.
- **Scoter/Powered** - If the service user is unable to self propel themselves and would like to be independent then a powered wheelchair is an option for indoor use and a scooter is for outdoor requirements.

Details to check before purchasing:

- **Your weight** - most wheelchairs have a max user weight.
- **Seat width, seat depth, seat height** - these can be achieved by measuring your hip width, back of seat to back of knee and lower leg length.



Tips for purchasing a wheelchair:

- **How often are you going to use it?**
Wheelchairs range from very comfy that you would spend a long time in, to wheelchairs that are used to go out.
- **Do you need a lightweight wheelchair?**
Some wheelchairs are made from steel and some are aluminium. Titanium and carbon can also be used but these are more specialist wheelchairs.
- **Do you want to be independent?**
Then self propel wheels (big wheels) would be suitable if you can self propel. If you require outdoor independent mobility then a scooter may be ideal. Otherwise if you need indoor mobility then speak to your GP receptionist about being referred into SWaPS.
- **Do you need to load the wheelchair into a car?**
Some self propel wheels have a quick release system on them, meaning that the wheels can be removed for easier loading. Foot rests can be fixed or detachable, to make the wheelchair easier to load into a car, opt for detachable. Back rests tend to fold down.
- **Do you need a cushion?**
There are a variety of cushions available, they range from comfort to pressure relieving. If you need a pressure relieving cushion to reduce the risk of pressure sores, then please contact you GP receptionist who will consider referring you into SWaPS.
- **What accessories are there?**
There are a number of accessories that can be purchased alongside a wheelchair, they vary from rain covers, to walking stick holders, to bags. Discuss these with the wheelchair dealer if necessary.

