

# SWAG

## Sway Welfare Aid Group

Registered Charity No. 261220

### **Older Drivers Assessment Scheme – Policy Statement**

Sway Welfare Aid Group [SWAG] appreciates the efforts of all volunteer drivers, both young and old, who give freely of their time to provide client transport to Lunch Club, Hospital and Medical Appointments.

To ensure that we comply with our insurance requirements and follow best practice guidelines as recommended by Good Neighbours Network [GNN] we have introduced participation in an Older Driver Assessment Scheme for any driver, current or new, once they reach the age of 75. Hampshire County Council provides this scheme.

Participation in the Assessment Scheme is voluntary and funded by SWAG. This is an informal and confidential appraisal with the aim of enhancing current skills. It is not a test so there is no pass or fail element. The assessor will look at the way the driver deals with various traffic situations on roads that he or she normally drives on and make recommendations to help ensure on-going safety. As SWAG pays for the assessment, the assessor, when he/she provides feedback to the driver, will ask if they are willing for the feedback to be provided on a confidential basis to SWAG. There is no compulsion and the driver is at total liberty to say no.

SWAG will continue to use existing drivers when they reach the age of 75 if they have agreed to participate in the scheme. SWAG will cease to use these drivers if they have not completed an assessment 6 months after their 75<sup>th</sup> birthday.

New drivers over the age of 75, or one who has returned after more than a 6-month gap will not be permitted to drive for SWAG until the assessment is completed.

All participating drivers will be asked to undertake a further assessment every 3 years.