

Croydon Council – Fact Sheet for residents applying for a Disabled Persons Freedom Pass

Eligibility Criteria – Profoundly or Severely Deaf

NOTE – this category is for Freedom Passes applications only

Hearing loss – is measured in decibels across the normal hearing spectrum, as dB HL (hearing level).

- 70-95 dB HL - People are generally regarded as having severe hearing loss
- 95 + dB HL – People are generally regarded as having a profound hearing loss

Also note:

- Eligibility only applies if you have this level of hearing loss in **both ears**.

Further information

Hearing loss is usually graded as follows:

- 25-39 dB HL: mild, cannot hear whispers
- 40-69 dB HL: moderate, cannot hear conversational speech
- 70-94 dB HL: severe, cannot hear shouting
- >95 dB HL: profound, cannot hear sounds that would be painful for a hearing person to listen to

You may be eligible if:

Your hearing loss is severe or profound (greater than 70 dB HL) in **both ears**

You will not be eligible if:

Your hearing loss is mild or moderate (69 dBHL or less) in your better ear

Evidence you could provide:

- An audiological report from a medical specialist in sensory impairment.

Notes on providing evidence to support your application:

Documents supplied must:

- be relevant to the eligibility criteria you are applying under
- show your name and address

For example:

- a letter of diagnosis
- evidence of specialist consultations etc.
- letters from other professionals involved in your care

You can now get access to your medical records by visiting www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/about-the-nhs/how-to-get-your-medical-records/

Please do not ask your GP to write a letter on your behalf. We will not be able to consider this. We cannot accept appointment letters as proof, please do not send these.