

Your reference HVDL/ma
Our reference Blue Badge App
Date 17 May 2017



City of
Stoke-on-Trent

Dr Harald Van der Linden
North Staffordshire Local Medical Committee
Middleport Medical Centre
Newport Lane
Stoke-on-Trent
ST6 3NP

Car Parking Operational Services
The Regent Centre
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Hanley
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ST1 3EG

Tel: 01782 237999
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Dear Dr Van der Linden

Blue Badge Application Process

I write in response to your letter dated today and received by email.

The city council administers the blue badge scheme to residents of Stoke-on-Trent. The blue badge scheme provides two application routes; automatic or discretionary. An automatic application is for applicants who are registered disabled and receive high rate mobility, personal independence payment with 8 points for moving around component, a war pension mobility supplement or are registered blind. These applicants are entitled to a blue badge without further assessment.

Where applicants are not automatically entitled, they apply using the discretionary criteria. These applicants are assessed by the Occupational Health team; we do not require any supporting documentation from GP's or physicians. Applicants attend a blue badge assessment and their walking ability and disability is discussed. If the application is refused, there is an appeals process; however this asks the applicant to explain their circumstances further and to bring medication or supporting documentation which was not considered as part of the original assessment. We do not require a report or assessment from a GP.

The only time we may ask for a letter or documentation from a GP or specialist is where an applicant is applying for a fast tracked blue badge because they have terminal cancer as part of their end of life care. Usually confirmation from Marie Curie or Douglas Macmillan nurses would suffice.

I will discuss the contents of your letter with my team so that they are clear with applicants that a written report from their GP is not required and would not be accepted unless the applicant is receiving end of life care.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Clarke'.

Michael Clarke, Group Manager

Please tell us if you need this letter in an alternative format

contacting the council:

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text: 07786 200 700

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