

## Driving assessment

The driving assessment is definitely not a test; it is a drive in your own car, with an experienced driving assessor, on roads you are familiar with. You will be able to talk about your performance as the drive progresses and are free to ask any questions you wish. You may also ask for any specific issues that concern you to be covered. You will be given a confidential written report at the end of the drive.

Once you have completed the programme you will be better informed and hopefully more confident about your driving.

If you have a partner and can both drive, you may wish to consider sharing the driving as this will keep you both in practice. If one of you has to retire from driving, the other will still be confident enough to drive.

## How can I take part in SAGE?

Because SAGE is intended to be a three stage process, it is best if you ask your GP or practice nurse if they are willing to arrange for you to have a health and medication review. They may be able to complete the review simply by reference to your medical notes or they may ask you to see the practice nurse. If you are under the care of a consultant you can ask them to refer you to SAGE.

## Cost

Unfortunately the SAGE assessment cannot be provided for free, a small charge is made to cover the costs of the practical drive and administering the scheme. The current cost is given on the enclosed application form.

# RoadSafety

For further information or an informal discussion telephone Garry Handley OBE on 01452 425557 during office hours (out of hours answer phone on 01452 425662).

## How to apply for a SAGE driving assessment

1. Read the leaflet and application form (if you require an application form please contact us).
2. Complete the first part of the application and sign it.
3. Let the doctor know that you wish to have a SAGE driving assessment and ask them to read and sign the declaration on the second part of the form.
4. Return the form together with your cheque made payable to Gloucestershire County Council, to:

**Road Safety Partnership  
Gloucestershire County Council, Shire Hall  
Westgate Street, Gloucester GL1 2TH**

We will then contact you to arrange a convenient time. If you require clarification on any of the points raised in this leaflet, please telephone Garry Handley OBE on

**t: 01452 425557.**

**e: [roadsafety@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:roadsafety@gloucestershire.gov.uk)**

**[www.roadsafety-gloucestershire.org.uk](http://www.roadsafety-gloucestershire.org.uk)**



# SAGE

**Safer driving with age  
Award-winning programme**



"I'm a great one for telling people that they get more valuable as they get older, like antiques. SAGE is a splendid scheme, which values older people."

**Henry Sandon MBE  
BBC Antiques Roadshow**



# RoadSafety



**SAGE** is a unique scheme aimed at improving the safety of older drivers. It stands for **'Safer Driving with Age'**.

We know that we gain wisdom and experience as we mature, but we can also be unaware of some of the bad habits we acquire during many years of driving.



Growing older involves many (perhaps unwelcome) physical changes. Some people do not have the good health and mobility that they had when they were younger. These facts can make driving more stressful and less enjoyable.

The SAGE process looks at these changes in a positive light by helping older drivers to adapt their driving to overcome them. We all have to stop driving one day; SAGE can provide drivers with the support, guidance and coaching necessary to continue driving for as long as it is safe to do so, or to help make the decision to retire from driving.

"I have Parkinson's disease and wanted to be sure that I was a safe and competent driver. My assessor was a very sympathetic person who put me at ease. I am much more confident and my friends and family are more trusting now that I have been assessed. As far as I am concerned, SAGE couldn't be better. I can't wait to waft my 'pass' certificate around!" **Mr AA**

"After a short hospital stay, I thought I should make sure that my driving was still OK. SAGE has given me confidence, and provided me with a life line - I live alone and the buses are very infrequent. It has reassured my family too." **Mrs EJ**

## What is involved?

### Health and medication

A medication review is undertaken to determine if any medicines being taken currently are likely to affect driving. A health review is needed to ensure that any medical problems that may reduce the ability to drive safely have been considered. Both these reviews can be done by your practice nurse or GP. A simple form is provided to confirm that there are no medications being taken or medical conditions known to exist that may make driving dangerous or illegal.

### Vision

Vision is vital to safe driving and regular eye examinations are important for all drivers. You should have had an eye examination less than a year before a SAGE assessment. If you have a medical condition which has affected your field of view you should ask your doctor to arrange a 'field test'.

Your ability to read a number plate at 67 feet, which is a legal requirement for all drivers, will be checked at the start of the assessed drive. If you are unsure, please make reference to the Highway Code.