

Mobility Scooter Retailers

These are two of the mobility scooter retailers that may offer maintenance, servicing, repairs and pre-purchase checks in the North Shore area:

Elite Mobility

Phone: 419 8183 or 0800 357 367

More Mobility

Phone: 447 3480

Additional numbers of interest:

AA Roadside Cover (for AA members)

Phone: 0800 500 444

Lottery Grants – Individuals with Disabilities (for new mobility scooters only)

Phone: 09 834 9701 or 0800 824 824

Ministry of Health

The Ministry of Health may consider funding for a mobility scooter in certain circumstances. Strict criteria apply and you will need to be assessed by an Occupational Therapist (via GP).

Accessibility

If you experience accessibility problems with roads and pavements you can notify Council.

Either:

- Phone North Shore City Actionline on: 486 8600
(You may like to record the date you contacted Council and a job number)
- Email: actionline@northshorecity.govt.nz
- Write to: North Shore City Council
Private Bag 93500
Takapuna
North Shore City 0740

DON'T BUY A LEMON

For more copies of this publication and others, please call

Age Concern North Shore on:

489 4975



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PURCHASING A SECOND HAND MOBILITY SCOOTER

Don't Buy A Lemon



Product and Service Information

*Age Concern North Shore
with assistance and support from
North Shore City Council*

What to consider and look for when purchasing a second hand mobility scooter

Batteries and Chargers:

- Do they work, how old are they and are they right for that mobility scooter?
- If the mobility scooter has been in storage, were the batteries disconnected to protect their longevity?

Parts:

- Are they under warranty and for how long?
- Are they replaceable in the distant future or will this model soon be obsolete?

Size:

- Is it right for your height and weight?

Wheels:

- Are they adequate for your body size and will they provide a smooth ride?

Capacity:

- Will it cover the distances you want to travel?
- Will it have the power for hill climbs?

Pre-purchase Check:

It may be worth arranging for a pre-purchase check of the mobility scooter you are interested in purchasing. Many mobility scooter retailers offer pre-purchase checks and will advise you on the suitability of the model for your body type and purpose of use.

Prices may vary, but this could be money well spent if it prevents purchase of a lemon!

Self Assessment Check

Coordination, Strength and Balance:

- Can I turn the key; adjust the dial and manage the throttle?
- Can I steer and turn tight corners?
- Can I turn my head to the side or behind if reversing?
- Can I keep my balance when travelling over rough or uneven ground?
- Can I adjust my body position when travelling up or down slopes?
- Can I stay seated for extended periods of time?
- Can I stand or walk short distances?

Vision:

- Can I clearly see obstacles and paving problems in my path; and react in time to avoid collisions?
- Can I see objects in the periphery of my vision?

Perception and Memory:

- Can I judge distances correctly?
- Can I judge my own speed and that of other vehicles and pedestrians?
- Can I remember all the safety procedures?



General Advice

- 'Compact' indicates a smaller mobility scooter (e.g. may fit into car boot). Some travel as far as bigger mobility scooters, but may have little or no suspension and lack ground clearance.
- Very large and powerful mobility scooters can be dangerous. Feet aren't flat on the footplate; riders can't sit straight and may have little control of the tiller.
- Remember to budget for maintenance of the mobility scooter – a second hand machine will likely cost more to maintain than a brand new machine. A new battery could cost as much as a second hand scooter, so it's worth checking the price of a new battery before purchase.
- The Consumer Guarantees Act does not apply to goods purchased second hand.
- Remember that mobility scooters are very quiet, so other pedestrians (especially older pedestrians) may be unaware of your presence. A simple "good morning" can be a friendly warning that you are behind them, or use a horn or bell to alert them.
- Seek advice and support when making your purchase and always try before you buy.
- Remember that your safety and mobility scooter pleasure is more important than dollars saved.