



SHOPMOBILITY BUDDIES

Thanks to funding from Manx Lottery Trust funding Circa Isle of Man is pleased to announce the launch of a brand-new initiative at the beginning of November – Shopmobility Buddies. The Shopmobility 'Buddy' Pilot Scheme is aimed at enhancing the accessibility and inclusivity of public spaces for individuals with mobility challenges.

The Shopmobility 'Buddy' Pilot Scheme addresses a critical need for those who use wheelchairs or other mobility aids.

Navigating public spaces such as shops and cafes can be daunting, and many individuals find it helpful to have a friend or relative accompany them for physical assistance or moral support. However, not everyone has access to such support, which is where the 'Buddies' come in.

The pilot scheme will provide trained volunteer 'Buddies' to accompany Shopmobility service users, offering companionship and assistance as needed. The role of the 'Buddy' is designed to be supportive and reassuring, rather than functioning as an attendant. This initiative aims to promote an ethos of inclusion, ensuring that compromised mobility does not compromise life and that everyone has equal access to public spaces.

If you would like to become a Volunteer Shopmobility Buddy, or would like to make use of this new service, please phone CIRCA Tel: 613713 or call in to see us!

