West Yorkshire Combined Authority | Tracy Brabin Mayor of West Yorkshire

Residential MCard Scheme

May 2026

What is the Residential Mcard?

- The **Residential MCard** is a **time-limited public transport ticket** for residents of specific developments.
- It offers **free or discounted travel**, primarily on **local and regional bus services** with options for rail use.
- The scheme is typically secured through **developer funding** as part of **planning obligations**.
- Its purpose is to **encourage sustainable travel choices** and reduce car dependency.



Why the scheme exists

- To support **modal shift** to public transport.
- To help **mitigate the transport impacts** of new development, particularly in early phases.
- To support residents in forming **long-term sustainable travel habits**.
- To align new development with wider goals on **carbon reduction, air quality, and congestion**.



How the scheme works

- **Eligibility** is defined through the planning agreement and usually applies to:
    - Residents of specific housing developments (minimum of 10 tickets).
    - A set number of cards per development.
    - A fixed value to be used for MCards.
- The scheme provides an Annual Mcard
- Residents apply via an **managed application process** that requires the applicant to email the Combined Authority using a dedicated email address.
- Cards are then processed and issued at the start of the month like a standard smartcard.



How the scheme works – Costs

Ticket Type	Ticket Cost	Cost Through Scheme
Bus Only	£930	£511.50
Zone 1 - 3	£1,536.30	£844.97
Zone 1 - 4	£1,804.80	£992.64
Zone 1 - 5	£2,166.80	£1,191.74
Zone 2 - 5	£1,513.40	£832.37

- Residents are then offered a 25% discount in year 2 and 10% discount in year 3



Key benefits and summary

- **For residents**: lower travel costs and better awareness of public transport options.
- **For developers**: supports sustainable development and meets transport mitigation requirements.
- **For the public sector**: helps align growth, transport investment, and climate objectives.
- Overall, the Residential MCard is a **targeted, pump-priming measure** that supports sustainable growth and travel behavior change.



Bulk Ticket Purchases

- All info on MCard products is on website m-card.co.uk
- If you want to bulk purchase non annual tickets, email to prepayments@westyorks-ca.gov.uk to register your interest
- You will be set up on ROSA system as an administrator
- The MCard mobile app is used to deliver the tickets to the user
- You only pay for activated tickets
- No discount for bulk purchase



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Thank you

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