

# ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2025 – CONSULTATION DOCUMENT



***This is our plan for making  
transport in Northern Ireland easier  
for people with a disability and  
older people***

**Easyread  
Version**

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## About this plan



We are called the **Department for Regional Development**. We are part of the Government in Northern Ireland and look after transport.



This plan is about how we will make transport in Northern Ireland easier to use for people with disabilities and older people. Transport includes things like buses, trains and taxis.



Easy to use transport will help people with a disability and older people to get out and about more and do the things they want to do in their lives.



This is another plan that we have made about making transport for older and people with a disability better.

The plan talks about the things we want to see happen in the next 10 years.



We will be helped on some of the things in this plan by a group of people with a disability and older people called the Inclusive Mobility Transport Advisory Committee which we are also call IMTAC.



Before we made the plan we talked to lots of people including IMTAC and other groups of older people and people with disabilities. They came up with a list of things that would help make transport better for people with a disability people and older people. These people will help us to make transport better for the next 10 years.



The people who helped us make the plan said that people with a disability and older people should be able to help in making decisions about transport.

They also said that the people in charge of getting new transport should:



- Always follow a law called the Disability Discrimination Act. This law makes sure people with a disability are treated in a good and fair way.



- Work with people with a disability and older people to make sure new transport is easy and safe for them to use.



- People with a disability and older people should get help to travel safely using cars and other transport that they use.

## What is in the Plan?

Here is a list of the things in the plan we want to do to help make transport better over the next 10 years.



1. We will continue to find out what people with a disability and older people think about using transport and try to make it enjoyable and comfortable for them.



2. People should be able to get information about transport in ways that are easy for them to understand. This might include using easy words with pictures or spoken on a CD, a computer or using new ways to connect with our transport services on your mobile phone.



3. People with a disability and older people should continue to get help with the cost of travel so they can use transport more often.



### Travel Safe

A guide to being out and about for people with learning disabilities

4. We have made a booklet called Travel Safe which explains how to use the transport system for people who have learning disabilities. We



want as many people as possible to have this booklet and so we will make sure schools and people with a disability can get a copy.



5. Staff from a company called Translink who run the buses and trains will get better training to help them understand better how to help people with a disability or older people use transport more easily.



6. We talk to other countries about how their transport works and see what we can learn from each other.



7. We will make sure that all new trains and buses are easy for people with a disability and older people to use.



8. We will make sure the Blue Badge scheme works even better in towns and cities and we will make sure that people do not use the blue badge the wrong way. The Blue Badge is a card people with a disability can put in their car windows. It means they can park in more places.



9. We will make it better for you to get information about times of buses and trains at

bus stops and in other new ways like using your mobile phone or the internet.



10. We will work to see if we can make bus and train timetables easier for everyone to read.



11. We will work with Translink to see if we can improve information using new ideas on your mobile phone or the internet, so that you can see and hear on buses and at bus stops.



12. A new and better guide will be produced to tell people with a disability what they can expect when they use buses and trains.



13. We will look at what the best ways are to help train people with a disability how to use the transport system here.



14. People with a disability and older people will continue to help the government and Translink to make the bus and rail services better.





15. We will work to make sure that bus and rail stations are safer and easier places to get to.



16. We will work with other transport services to help people with a disability and older people use public transport better.



## How to get in touch with us

We would like to know what you think about our plan. Are you happy with it? Have we left anything out? Contact us using the addresses below.



This easy read information is on our website.  
<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk>

You can also get a copy of our plan in audio format at this address

You can also get this information in large print (big writing), on CD or in Braille.



**Write** to us at this address

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