



Department for  
**Regional  
Development**

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AN ROINN

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MÄNNYSTRIE FÜR

**Kintra Pairts Fordèrin**

# Draft Action Plan 2009 – 2012

**Our plan for making transport  
in Northern Ireland easier for  
disabled people and older  
people to use**



**Easy Read 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.



This plan is about how we will make **transport** in Northern Ireland easier for disabled people and older people to use.

Transport is things like buses, trains and taxis.



Easy to use transport will help disabled people and older people to

- get out and about in their local area
- do the things they want to do in their lives



We have made this plan before. We made it in 2005 and in 2007 to talk about what we wanted to happen at that time.



Now we have made the plan again to talk about the things we want to happen in the next 3 years to make transport easier for disabled people and older people to use.



## What we want to make happen

We came up with a list of things that would make transport better for disabled people and older people.

The list of things is below. We have made them part of our plan.



- Disabled people and older people should be able to help make decisions about transport.



- The people in charge of getting new transport should
  - always follow a law called the Disability Discrimination Act. This law makes sure disabled people are treated in a good and fair way.



- work with disabled people, older people and other groups to make sure new transport is easy and safe for them to use.



- Disabled people and older people should get help to travel safely using cars and other transport that they own.

## Other things we think should happen



- Work should be done to look at why disabled people and older people may feel worried about using transport. We want to change things so they feel ok about using transport.



- People should be able to get information about transport in ways that are easy for them to understand. For example, in easy words with pictures.



- Disabled people and older people should get help with the cost of travel so they can use transport more easily.

## Who will check this plan is working?



- We have set up a group of people to check how well this plan is working.



- Some of the things in this plan will be done by a group of people called IMTAC. They will work with other groups as well.

IMTAC is a group that works to make transport in Northern Ireland better for disabled people and older people.

# Now you can read what we want to happen in the next 3 years

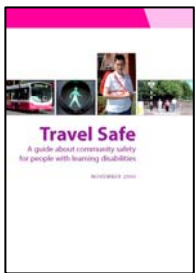


## 1. Giving people information

Here are the things we want to make happen



- We want new information to be made to
  - help people in charge of transport work well together to make transport easy to use.
  - help lots of people know what disabled people and older people need when they use public transport.
  - help disabled people, older people and groups who work with them know about the transport that is easy for them to use.



- We will make some information called the **Travel Safe Guide** better. This is a book to help people with a learning disability travel safely on their own.



- We will make sure more people know about the **Access to Work Programme**. This is something that helps disabled people get to their job.



- We will have meetings to tell people about this plan.

## 2. Training



- Staff from a company called Translink will get training about what they need to know about a law called the Disability Discrimination Act. Translink run the buses and trains.



- People who work for transport services will get training to help them know how to help disabled people and other people in the right way.

## 3. Other things in the plan



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



- We will buy 20 new trains and 286 new buses that are easy for disabled people and older people to use.



- We will make sure the **blue badge** scheme works even better in towns and cities.



The blue badge is a card disabled people can put in their car windows. It means they can park in more places.



- A group called IMTAC will look at the best ways to tell people about easy to use transport. Then they will tell groups that run transport how to do this.



- We will find out what younger disabled people think about using transport.



- We will see if information about times of buses and trains could be sent to people in a text message.



- We will work to make bus and train timetables easy for everyone to read.



- We will find out how much it would cost to have information you can hear and see on buses.



- We will find out if it would be a good idea to have 1 phone number for people to phone to book all public transport.



- We will see if we need to make new laws to keep disabled people safe when they use transport in Northern Ireland.



- We will find out how well **Door-to-door** services are working.

Door-to-door services is transport that can pick you up from your home if you cannot use other transport like buses or trains.



- We will see if we need to give any more help to make a bus service called **Easibus** work well.



- We will look at the way people get the **Smart Pass** to see if we need to change anything.

The Smart Pass is a card some people can carry with them. It means they can get cheaper fares on buses and trains.

## Some of the work that has already been done

- Work has been done to



- make bus and rail stations safer places to be. For example, by using cameras to keep people safe.



- stop people who are not disabled using parking spaces for disabled people.



- All new Translink trains have information you can listen to and see that tells you which stations the train will be stopping at.



- A group called IMTAC has made some leaflets called **Transport Matters**. They help disabled people and older people use public transport.



- The law says that by the year 2020 all trains must be easier for disabled people to use.



- There are now 23 new trains that are easy for disabled people and older people to use.
- There are 299 new buses that are easier for disabled people and older people to use.



- The law also says that all new bus and train stations must be easy for disabled people and older people to use.



- There is some new transport for disabled people and older people in bigger towns and cities who cannot use other transport.
- This new transport can pick people up from their homes. It is called Door-to-door transport.

## How to get in touch with us



This easy read information is on our website.  
[www.drdni.gov.uk](http://www.drdni.gov.uk)

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



If you have any comments on the plan please send them  
to us by 7th July 2009.

You can

**Write** to us at this address



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