

Respondent's Details

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Please Return by 19 February 2010

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To:

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I am responding: as an individual on behalf of an organisation

Is your response confidential? If so, please explain why (see Appendix 1 "Confidentiality of Consultations – Freedom of Information Act 2000").

No.

Provision is made throughout this questionnaire for you to provide additional comments. If, however, you wish to provide more detailed comments on any aspect of the consultation, please feel free to append additional materials and supplementary documents, clearly marked and cross-referenced to the relevant questions, as necessary.

Questions on Detailed Policy Proposals

Question 1 (page 15)

Do you agree that the Department should have the necessary authority to implement the Rapid Transit proposals?

Yes No

Comments:

Refer to general response on page 10

Question 2 (page 16)

Do you agree that the Department should take land acquisition powers for the implementation of the Rapid Transit system?

Yes No

Comments:

Question 3 (page 16)

Do you agree that the Department should have the power to purchase, lease and dispose of goods, services and facilities for the Rapid Transit system?

Yes **No**

Comments:

Question 4 (page 17)

Do you agree that a performance-based contract should be introduced for the operation of the Rapid Transit system?

Yes **No**

Comments:

Question 5 (page 18)

Do you agree that the Department should be responsible for:

- specifying Rapid Transit service requirements, quality-of-service and the fare levels;
- awarding the Rapid Transit contract; and
- monitoring and reporting on Rapid Transit operator performance?

Yes **No**

Comments:

Question 6 (page 18)

What are your views on the proposal to offer financial incentives to the Rapid Transit operator to grow the Rapid Transit market, introduce innovation and improve services?

Comments:

Question 7 (page 20)

Do you agree with the proposed powers to regulate passenger conduct on Rapid Transit Vehicles and in/on Rapid Transit premises?

Yes No

Comments:

Question 8 (page 21)

Do you agree that the dedicated public transport corridors on which Rapid Transit operates should be strictly enforced?

Yes No

Comments:

Question 9 (page 21)

Do you agree with the proposed powers for the Department to install, operate and maintain off-board ticketing machines?

Yes **No**

Comments:

Please make any further comments on the Detailed Policy Proposals here, ensuring that you clearly refer to any relevant questions or responses submitted above. –

Regards Q2, Although NIE agrees the Department should take land acquisition powers, we would also point out any alterations to NIE equipment located on acquired land may incur costs payable by the Department.

More generally, at this stage NIE recognises that the initial strategy is based upon a bus Rapid Transit system incorporating the development of dedicated bus lanes. This strategy would not appear to have any practical implication for our current network unless it involves the creation of new routes that could require road alterations or the construction of new roads.

If the Strategy wishes however to be flexible towards a future light rail option as mentioned in the Detailed Policy Proposal (November 2009, paragraph 1.8) which is to be powered from the electricity network then it would be important to engage with NIE in terms of route selection and connection at an early a stage.

Questions on Integrated Impact Assessment

In considering these questions you should bear in mind that it is proposed that a further Integrated Impact Assessment screening exercise will be undertaken prior to the implementation phase of the Rapid Transit project.

Question 1

Do you have any views on the Integrated Impact Assessment Screening conclusion reached by the Department?

Yes No

Comments:

Question 2

Are there any particular equality issues that need to be considered in relation to the policy proposals contained in the Detailed Policy Proposals booklet?

Yes No

Comments:

Comments on Equality Screening

We welcome your comments on any aspect of the draft equality screening document. Please bear in mind that it is proposed that a further screening exercise will be undertaken prior to the implementation phase of the Rapid Transit project.

Comments: