

# Consultation on changes to bus registration in Scotland



## RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please Note this form **must** be returned with your response to ensure that we handle your response appropriately

### 1. Name/Organisation

Organisation Name

Community Transport Association (CTA)

Title Mr  Ms  Mrs  Miss  Dr  *Please tick as appropriate*

Surname

John

Forename

MacDonald

### 2. Postal Address

54 Manor Place

Edinburgh

Postcode EH3 7EH

### 3. Permissions - I am responding as...

Individual / Group/Organisation

Please tick as appropriate

(a) Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in Scottish Government library and/or on the Transport Scotland web site)?

Please tick as appropriate  Yes  No

(b) Where confidentiality is not requested, we will make your responses available to the public on the following basis

Please tick **ONE** of the following boxes

Yes, make my response, name and address all available

or

Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address

or

Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

(c) The name and address of your organisation **will be** made available to the public (in the Scottish Government library and/or on the Transport Scotland web site).

Are you content for your **response** to be made available?

Please tick as appropriate  Yes  No

(d) We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Transport Scotland to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Please tick as appropriate  Yes  No

## **CONSULTATION QUESTIONS**

**Question 1: do you agree with the proposal to extend the pre-registration notice period from 14 days to 28 days ?**

Yes  No

Extending the pre-registration notice period gives more opportunity for dialogue to take place between operator and transport authorities and therefore gives potential to mitigate negative impacts on communities.

**Question 2: Do you agree with the proposal to replace the duty to inform the relevant authorities before making an application for registration with a duty to consult with the relevant authorities?**

Yes  No

This measure could improve the public's understanding of bus registrations and should lead to closer working between transport authorities and operators

**Question 3: Do you agree that relevant authorities should be encouraged through guidance to draw potential concerns about new registrations to the attention of the traffic Commissioner for Scotland and/or Transport Scotland?**

Yes  No

Relevant authorities are more likely to understand the impact of new registrations on local communities than Transport Scotland and the Traffic Commissioner and therefore with guidance this would be a sensible measure.

**Question 4a: Do you agree with the proposal to reduce the period of registration from 56 days to 42 days? What difficulties (if any) do you consider such a change might present and how might these be addressed?**

Yes  No

Though the shortened registration period could have some negative implications such as shortage of time to print new timetables, on balance a shorter period is likely to have more benefits. It will still take 70 days for a proposed registration to become a reality but the time will be better used under the proposals offered in this consultation

**Question 4b: An alternative option would be to reduce the registration period from 56 days to 42 days only where Electronic Bus Service Registration (EBSR) is used. Do you agree with this?**

Yes  No

This is a good alternative if non-electronic registrations prove impracticable.

**Question 5: Do you agree that we should require operators to detail within registered hourly frequency bands any services that are registered as frequent services?**

Yes  No

Comments

**Question 6: Do you agree that if the proposed changes set out above are adopted, they will improve the bus registration process in Scotland ?**

Yes  No

Overall the proposals should lead to better dialogue between transport authorities and operators and a more collaborative approach to bus service development

**Question 7: It is possible that much of what is proposed above could be achieved through Guidance and/or a Code of Conduct to facilitate engagement between operators and relevant authorities rather than changes to the legislation. Do you have any views on this?**

Yes  No

The proposals are steps towards better bus transport from the passenger point of view. We think legislation will be more effective than codes of conduct which could lead to a patchwork of approaches to bus registration across the country.