

## The Bus Open Data Consultation 2025

### S1 Consultation Identifier Questions

**Q1. Are you completing this on behalf of yourself or an organisation?**

- Individual
- Organisation

**Q1b. If an organisation, please list below.**

### S2 Questions on Types of Service

**Q2A Do you agree with our approach that only services registered with the Traffic Commissioner, or within a Local Transport Authority franchise area should be required to provide open data?**

- Yes
- No

## Q2B If 'No', which of the following services not in scope would you like to include, with the understanding that there is no central list of these services.?

- Long distance coach services, where stops are more than 15 miles apart
- School and college services, where the only passengers are students and educators
- Substitute services for railway services which have been temporarily interrupted
- Excursions and tour buses which do not run regularly
- Free bus services, such as an internal car park bus run by a shopping centre
- Other, please use the box below to provide details of your answer

## S3 Questions on the Use and Disclosure of Information

### Q3 Do you have any concerns over the use of the Open Data in this way?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Mind
- Don't Know

## S4 Questions on The Prescribed Information – Passenger Views

**Q4A Do you consider yourself as having additional access needs when using public transport? This could mean features of the bus or bus stop itself, such as audio announcements, or features on the vehicle, such as a wheelchair accessible space?**

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

**Q4B From the following list of routine information, please tick all of the information you would find useful if made available to you when planning a bus journey, if it were available.**

- Who operates the bus service? (e.g. which bus company runs the service)
- What the bus might look like (e.g. it has purple livery, or it is a green bus)
- The name or number of the services (e.g. the X8, 'The Town Service' etc)
- The names of the bus stops the bus will call at, in order
- The days and times the bus will arrive/depart from each bus stop
- The service(s) a ticket is valid on (For tickets that operate in a zone, the service numbers, routes or bus stops included in the range of the ticket)
- The ways that you can pay the fare (e.g. cash, contactless, etc)
- What format the ticket will be in (paper, smartcard, digital, tap on/off etc)
- The cost of the ticket
- The difference in price if you bought it in another format or in another way, For example if a ticket is cheaper if you buy in advance or online, compared to buying onboard, or has a discount applied if bought through an app
- Where you can buy tickets? (e.g. Online, in person at a shop, or only on the bus etc)
- The places you will see information about fares, tickets, special offers or routes? Such as, advertised on board buses, on a bus operator website, via a third party app etc.
- All of the above

**Transport Scotland**

- None of the above
- Other (please describe)

**Q4C Assuming all of the routine information you would find useful were available, how would you prefer to obtain a ticket for travel? Please rank the following methods in order of preference. If you are entitled to free travel, please disregard the options for payment, and rank the following methods in order of preference by type.**

- Option 1 I would like to obtain a paper ticket for a specific journey, using cash, contactless payment, or mobile payment (for example, Apple Pay)
- Option 2 I would like to 'tap' a personal bank card or electronic bank card to make unlimited journeys up to a set fare cap
- Option 3 I would like to hold a physical (plastic) card that I can add a balance to or that would result in a 'Bill' at the end of a set period
- Option 4 I would like to use a app on an electronic device which allows me to pre-pay for a journey (or a number of journeys)

Please list the options in order of preference:

### Q4D Which of the following 'real time' information would you find useful in planning your use of a specific service/services, if it were available?

- Live Bus stop arrival and departure times
- Live timetables
- Live disruption updates
- On-board capacity (e.g. how full the bus is)
  
- Number of wheelchair accessible spaces and if it is in use
- If there is Wi-Fi/Power/Charging facilities, and if they are operational
  
- If there are toilets on board, and if they are operational
  
- If the bus has audio/visual capability, For example, it announces or provides information about the current and next stop visually
  
- Which payment types the bus can accept e.g. cash, contactless, card etc.
- The emissions created by the bus
  
- All of the above
- None of the above
- Other. Please use the box below to provide details of your answer

### Q4E Specifically thinking about the bus stop or stopping place of the bus, which of the following would you find useful to planning your journey, if it were available?

- Accessibility features
- Name of the bus stop (for the purposes of finding it on a timetable)
- Location Description (busy streets may have multiple similarly named stops)
  
- All of the above
  
- Do you have any other comment on bus stop information? (please describe below)



## S3 Questions on The Prescribed Information – Industry views

### Technical Questions on Routes

**Q5A Do you agree with our approach to require the information listed above, about timetables, stopping places and about route information?**

- Yes
- No
- If you do not agree, how would you amend the proposed list?

**Q5B What barriers, if any, do you foresee in organisations being able to provide this information?**

**Q5C How often do you believe this information should be updated? We propose that information should be updated no less than two weeks before any change takes place, and in any case, not less than every 12 months?**

## Technical Questions on Fares

**Q6A Do you agree with the proposed definitions for simple and complex fares concerning tickets?**

- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
  
- Don't Mind
- Don't Know
- If you do not agree, how would you amend the proposed list?



**Q6B Do you agree or disagree that the requirement to provide fares information should be phased in over time, with the initial provision of simple fares information required first, with complex fares information to follow?**

- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
  
- Don't Mind
- Don't Know

Do you have any suggestions for any other information about tickets and fares that should be included? Please explain why this would be useful

## Technical Questions on Real Time Information

**Q7A Do you agree with our list of requirements for real time location information, and real time facilities and accessibility information?**

- Yes
- No

If no, how would you amend or expand the list, and why?

**Q7B What barriers, if any, do you foresee in organisations being able to provide this information?**

**Q7C Do you agree with our two stage approach with supporting guidance, or would you prefer to see all the requirements of stage two prescribed in statute openly from commencement? Please give a reason for your answer**

**Q7D We propose that real time information needs to be as close to 'real time' as possible. We would therefore like to hear your views on an acceptable feed time for location services**

- Data provided within one minute while the service is in operation
- Data provided within the average time between stops on the route (For example, if the average travel time between two stops is 3 minutes, an update would be required within three minutes)
- Data provided within a timescale set by geographic location, detailed separately in guidance(For example, within one minute in a city region, but within 5 minutes in a rural area)
- Data provided within one minute, but with the possibility of exemptions set in guidance (For example, guidance could set a process to agree and identify geographic areas with low connectivity where the timescale could be longer, or could simply list agreed areas which would be automatically exempt)
- Another timescale (please provide)

## Technical Questions on Bus Stop Information

**Q8A Do you agree with our proposal to include the above information as part of the new statutory duty for local transport authorities to provide bus stop information?**

- Yes
- No

If no, how would you amend or expand the list, and why?

**Q8B How often do you believe this information should be refreshed? For example, every three months, every year, after any change, etc?**

## S4 Questions Training, Compliance and Enforcement

**Q9A Do you (or your organisation) operate bus services in Scotland?**

Yes

No

**Q9B How prepared do you believe the industry is for bus open data requirements under the new Regulations in Scotland**

**Q9C What topics and content would you like to see included in the guidance?**

**Q9D Do you think you will require specific tools or training to be compliant with the new Regulations?**

**Q9E What is your view on the proposed requirement for new data to be provided two weeks in advance of any planned changes for tickets, routes, fares, or timetables?**

**Q9F What financial impacts, if any do you foresee for businesses in meeting the new bus open data requirements under the new Regulations?**

## **S5 Timescales**

**Q10 Do you agree with the proposed timescales requiring the submission of the prescribed data?**

Yes

No

If you do not agree with the proposed timescales, what would you alter, and why?

## S6 Data Standards

### Route and Timetable Information

Q11A To align with the format the majority of organisations use, and to align with timetable standards in England and Wales, we propose to require the use of the TransXChange data standard. Do you agree that we should set TransXChange as the standard for timetable information?

- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
  
- Don't Mind
- Don't Know

If you would like to share the reason for your answer, please do so here.

**Q11B What barriers, if any, do you foresee if legislation requires Scottish bus operators to provide information in this format?**

**Q11C This question is to capture the point of view of a data user, rather than a data provider. From the point of view of a body using, what standard(s) should data be provided in from the data hub for data consumers?**

- TransXChange
- NetEx
- GTFS
  
- SIRI-PT
- ATCO CIF
- JESS
  
- Hastus
- Other
- Don't Mind
- Don't Know

If you would like to share the reason for your answer, please do so here.



## Fares and Ticket Information

**Q12A To align with the fares standards in England and Wales, we propose to require the use of the NetEx data standard. Do you agree or disagree with this preferred standard?**

- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
  
- Don't Mind
- Don't Know

If you would like to share the reason for your answer, please do so here.

**Q12B What barriers, if any, do you foresee if the BOD Regulations require Scottish bus operators to provide information in this format?**

**Transport Scotland**

**Q12C From the point of view of a data user, what standard(s) should data be provided in from the data hub for data consumers?**

- NetEx
- GTFS
- Other
- Don't Mind
- Don't Know

If you would like to share the reason for your answer, please do so here.

## Real Time Information

**Q13A We believe that real time data should be provided in the SIRI data standard to collect more raw data and to align with English and Welsh standards. Do you agree or disagree with this approach?**

- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
  
- Don't Mind
- Don't Know

If you would like to share the reason for your answer, please do so here.

**Q13B What barriers, if any, do you foresee if legislation requires Scottish bus operators to provide information in this format?**

**Transport Scotland**

**Q13C From the point of view of a data user, what standard(s) should data be provided in? This would mean what format would the data be provided in from the data hub for use by data consumers?**

- SIRI
- GTFS
- Other
- Don't Mind
- Don't Know

If you would like to share the reason for your answer, please do so here.

## **Bus Stop Information**

**Q14A Do you agree with our proposal to use the NaPTAN data standard for this information?**

- Yes
- No

If you would like to share the reason for your answer, please do so here.

**Q14B What factors, if any, could be a barrier for local transport authorities in maintaining bus stop information this way?**

**Q14C How often should this information be updated?**

- Every time there is a change
- As often as possible but not less than every three months
- As often as possible but not less than every twelve months
- Other (please explain)

## S7 Any Other Comments

Q15 Are there any other comments you wish to provide in relation bus open data?