

## General - 6e Equalities Duties

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- Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update regarding Nestrans' Equalities Duties and to present an Annual Report outlining activities undertaken and how the partnership responds to its responsibilities to ensure appropriate levels of access for all.

- Background

As a public body, Nestrans is required to produce an annual statement outlining what measures it has taken to ensure that its policies and actions comply with legislation on issues relating to equalities, including accessibility and discrimination.

- Annual Report

Appendix 1 to this report consists of a draft Annual Equalities Plan, outlining actions and activities taken to comply with appropriate legislation. Members are asked to approve the plan and instruct that it be made available on the Nestrans' website.

- Recommendation

It is recommended that Members :

- a) approve this report and Appendix as the Partnership's report on Equalities.

RD/DK/11 June 2012

## Appendix: Equalities Duties Annual Report

### Equalities duties

As a statutory public body, Nestrans is legally obliged to adopt an equalities scheme for race, gender and disability. At its Board meeting on 10 December 2007, the Board agreed to adopt an Equalities Scheme covering these areas. This Plan is on the Nestrans website at:

[http://www.nestrans.org.uk/db\\_docs/docs/Nestrans%20Equalities%20Scheme%20-%20Dec%202007%20\(final\).pdf](http://www.nestrans.org.uk/db_docs/docs/Nestrans%20Equalities%20Scheme%20-%20Dec%202007%20(final).pdf)

Nestrans is the secretariat for North East Transport Consultative Forum. This forum includes representatives from various bodies including those described under the Equalities Scheme. Nestrans regularly uses the NETCF for consultation on the development of its policies.

Most of the projects implemented as part of the Nestrans programmes of work are implemented by Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils. Consultation with the Equality Groups is undertaken by the councils as part of their normal service delivery.

Nestrans does however have further development work in the creation of Action Plans and other consultancy studies. These will in the usual course of events be the subject of discussion with NETCF during development and adoption. In addition Nestrans will specifically invite input from the Equality Scheme Groups to the development of the following Plans:

- Health and Transport Action Plan
- Road Safety strategy
- Delivery plan
- Bus Action Plan
- Freight Action Plan
- Rail Action Plan
- Financial support for the core paths network plan
- Sustainable transport and travel plan strategy including Getabout

A register of discussion and involvement in the development of our policy and programming work has been created to provide the background evidence that our obligations have been properly discharged.

[www.realtimebus.com](http://www.realtimebus.com) which gives real time bus information across Aberdeen to help people know in advance where their bus is. This is of particular use for people with anxiety or mobility problems so they can plan their exit from the house to meet the bus.

It was hoped that Stagecoach would join the system in 2011 but Aberdeenshire Council are still working with Stagecoach to expand the system

### The Getabout campaign.

About 40 public events involving a wide range of demographics. They include several cycle road shows across city and shire both public, at schools and workplaces where a full range of people including some with severe mobility problems have attended.

The launch of the Getabout "Travel Tools" leaflet was made at a Disability Advisory Group meeting in Aberdeen the aim is to help people make informed choices about their travel and aid people who may have physical or mental health problems travel more easily.

**Report transport issues**  
[www.fixmytransport.com](http://www.fixmytransport.com)

*I have a complaint!*  
*My train is late every day*

This website lets you send problems direct to the operator about a stop, station, route or journey.

The more people that report problems, the faster they can be fixed. Track your reported issue and gather the power of the public behind you.

It can also help you find a stop or station and view public transport routes by region.

**getabout**  
A to B in Aberdeen City and Shire

Icons representing: Bus, Train, Car, Car +2, Pedestrian, and Cyclist.

**Your Travel Tools**  
for getting around  
Aberdeen & Aberdeenshire

Icons representing: Web Site, Smart Phone, and Text Timetables/Journey Planners.

**nestrans**  
27-29 King Street  
Aberdeen City Council  
AB24 5AA  
[www.nestrans.org.uk](http://www.nestrans.org.uk)

designed by [www.foyergraphics.com](http://www.foyergraphics.com)

The Getabout cycle roadshow in partnership with Adventure Aberdeen has been a success - a locally managed cycle roadshow with Partners Adventure Aberdeen to promote cycling through travel plans. Included are several bikes for people with no or limited lower limb function, balance problems and sight difficulties

Nestrans is required to prepare an annual report on the development of our Equalities Scheme. The following table shows progress against our Action Plan.

	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Involvement and Consultation</b>		
1a	NETCF to provide an effective forum for involving a wide range of interests in developing and implementing transport strategy.	Review membership of NETCF to ensure that it provides effective representation.  Identify groups that are currently under-represented.	A review was carried out, but no further groups have been added this year
		Explore concept of establishing a sub-group of NETCF to consider Equalities issues.	No action any group formation
1b	Seek to ensure that consultation methods are as inclusive as possible and explore new ways of involving people.	Review best practice on consultation and involvement.  Liaise with Councils on methods used	Community groups and various demographics have been involved in consultation over the transport access guide
<b>2</b>	<b>Assessing policies and projects for impact on equalities</b>		
2.1	Publish a Health and Equalities Impact Assessment of the Regional Transport Strategy.	NHS Grampian undertook this work. To be published on website once completed.  Inform RTS Delivery Plan and Actions Plans	Published on the Nestrans website
2.2	Ensure that impacts on equalities are taken into account in the development of policies and design of projects.	Methodology is now developed.	The design of projects is outsourced to either Aberdeenshire or Aberdeen City Councils who have the methodology to take account of equalities
2.3		Explore concept of 'road testing' policies with particular groups to gain their specialist input.	This has happened with young people and disabled groups with the First Safe Journey card and access guide.
<b>3</b>	<b>Promoting equality and influencing others to promote equality</b>		
3.1	Positive impacts arising from plans or projects identified and maximised.	Assessment of plans and projects for impacts on equalities.	All plans have been assessed for equalities
3.2	Partner organisations encouraged to promote equality in implementing the RTS.	Encourage public and private sector partners to promote equality in the delivery of measures within the RTS.	Active promotion of equalities has taken place within the framework of the RTS

	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Progress</b>
3.3	Contractors required to conform with Nestrans' policies on equalities.	Include appropriate wording in contract documentation.	Use the council's standard contract documentation – equalities specifically mentioned and referenced to the website document
<b>4.</b>	<b>Implementing measures in the RTS which have a particular impact on promoting equality and social inclusion</b>		
4.1	Health and Transport Action Plan to promote equality and social inclusion.		<p>The H&amp;T Action plan is complete and is being implemented. There are 3 strands to the work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to healthcare</li> <li>• Public Health and transport</li> <li>• Active travel</li> </ul> <p>Actions include the launch of the Aberdeen City and Mearns Car Club and the trialling of 2 Hydrogen cars with the car club the first in the world</p>
4.2	Improved accessibility to bus services	<p>IC3 - Quality bus corridor improvements to services and facilities. Raised kerbs and improved bus stop facilities.</p> <p>Extend bus priority measures on key routes to enable buses to beat congestion.</p> <p>Explore Rapid Transit options such as guided busways and the Super Bus concept.</p> <p>Expand Park and Ride provision linked to the development of the AWPR.</p> <p>Further develop real-time information systems to expand coverage across region.</p> <p>Future priorities to be implemented through the Bus Action Plan.</p>	<p>Nestrans continues to promote and fund quality bus corridor improvements. Stagecoach has taken over the Dyce Shuttle bus service with low floor buses and on board wifi</p> <p>The King Street Bus lane is now complete</p> <p>Not being progressed</p> <p>The Dyce facility has planning permission the Scottish Government will fund it as part of the AWPR contract. That project is currently with the Court of Sessions and no decision is expected in the medium term</p>

	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Progress</b>
4.4	Support for demand responsive and community transport services.	<p>IC4 - Support extension of 'Dial-a-Bus' and similar services to serve those unable to access conventional buses and to link with scheduled bus services.</p> <p>Support community transport providers and encourage development of services.</p>	Dyce Airport bus – Dyce station work on making Dyce Station accessible is expected to start next year by Network Rail. The new bus service is now low floor, it increases access to employment and links transport modes for those without a car.
4.5	Effective provision of accessible taxis	IC4 - Seek to ensure that taxis are provided in an efficient and effective way, which meets the needs of customers	The City Council has made a commitment that all taxis in the city will be accessible in the future
4.6	Effective and seamless interchange between modes of transport with safe waiting areas.	<p>IC5 - Maximising interchange potential of Guild Street development and link with Union Street and support enhancement of other interchange points in Aberdeen.</p> <p>Implement city centre shuttle bus and explore potential for future 'Micro-Light' tram. Support further improvements to interchange facilities in Aberdeenshire towns, in particular building on developments at Inverurie, Peterhead and Banchory.</p> <p>Work with operators to develop integrated ticketing across services and operators in the north east</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>The Hospital bus port has been expanded and made more accessible. It was opened in April</p> <p>No progress on integrated ticketing</p>
	Improved walking and cycling facilities.	<p>IC6 - Support investment in measures to increase safety and security of walking and in particular to facilitate interchange between different modes of transport. Urban realm improvements to improve the pedestrian environment.</p> <p>Support the extension of low speed zones, particularly where it improves the environment for pedestrians and cyclists and increases safety for children.</p> <p>Continued development of cycle routes on key routes within Aberdeenshire, into Aberdeen and on routes through the City.</p>	<p>Investment continues in cycle infrastructure. Approximately 30% of the Nestrans capital budget goes on cycling</p> <p>Continue to support these zones</p> <p>Work continues on the "access from the North" and access from the south" strategic cycling plans</p>

	Outcomes	Actions	Progress
	Overcoming issues of affordability for particular public transport user groups	IE1 - Work with operators to identify possible fare incentives to encourage increased bus use, particularly where this enables access to employment or training.	Salary sacrifice replacement tickets have been offered by First they include a specific route ticket to comply with Revenue and Customs rules and a free all zones bus ticket for the year. Work in South Aberdeen continues



Hydrogen Car Launch April 2012