



Scottish Pensioners' Forum

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This response may be published with the name of our organisation.

Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive
Regional Transport Strategy – Consultation Response

The Scottish Pensioners' Forum wish for it to be noted that a 68 page document, with a 38 page consultation questionnaire, principally accessible online, seems hardly calculated to involve a representative range of users, with many target groups being digitally excluded or having limited online access.

Strategic Framework

There are no real objections here. However, we would like to make comment that the statement is highly aspirational, lacking clear, specific, objectives by which success might be judged, or the means by which said objectives will be delivered. There is also a distinct lack of clear information on the resourcing being made available.

Accessing and Using Public Transport

Ability to access and use public transport is an important and essential issue for our members.

Affordable Transport

The majority of our members will have access to the National Entitlement Card. In general, we believe that ticketing should be simplified, easily understandable, and affordable.

Availability of Public Transport

We would like to raise the question of what is the actual 'minimum level of active travel and public transport coverage for all areas in the region'?

Safety and Security of Public Transport

This is of great importance to our members. Proposals to reduce staffing on public transport, particularly, but not uniquely, railways are inimical to this aim.

Planning and Land Use

Planning Authorities should insist that safe access to public transport for all users is a condition of any new development.

- **20-Minute Neighbourhoods**

How is this to be achieved in rural areas?

- **Road Space Reallocation**

This is fair enough however not at the expense of denying personal disabled access, by, for instance, the creation of bus only lanes, and removal of disabled parking bays.

- **Integration of Public Transport**

This is very important to our members who wish to enjoy seamless transfer between services and modes.

- **Last Mile Connectivity**

This is important to encourage usage of public transport; in rural areas it is likely to be rather more than a 'last mile'.

Governance

Delivery of these aspirations cannot be left to local authorities, whose finances are severely restricted and whose focus within their areas is likely to reflect their financial priorities as much as the diversity of their communities. Integrated and sustainable public transport provision should be regarded as a national service.

Conclusion

The Scottish Pensioners' Forum has taken the decision not to comment on all aspects of the proposals included within the consultation. Our prime focus is on the immediate concerns of our members and the proposals included within the consultation which affect them more directly.

This should not however be taken to indicate our opposition to them.