

Public Transport Reform: Update

Regional Development Committee
9 September 2009



Overall Aim

"to continue to improve services for the benefit of customers
creating an effective, efficient and sustainable public transport service
that contributes to the Executive's transportation, environmental, social inclusion and equality objectives, through accessibility and service delivery, while supporting the development of the wider economy."



Overall Aim

To meet the needs of the travelling public
in terms of :-

- Integration
- Accessibility
- Affordability, and
- Quality of services.



Key Milestones to date

- 9 June 2008** - Minister presented RDC with reform proposals and Strategic Business Case.
- 25 June 2008** - Officials briefed RDC seeking views on the analysis and the proposal to proceed to OBC.
- 24 September 2008** - Committee held evidence session involving all key stakeholders.
- 1 July 2009** - OBC and draft consultation documents presented to Committee for consideration.



Progress since 1 July 2009

The Department has continued to take the views of stakeholders.

Meetings with:-

- Consumer Council
- Federation for Passenger Transport
- Rural Development Council/Rural Community Network
- Federation for Small Businesses
- IMTAC
- Translink Trades Unions
- Department of Environment



Consultation Documents: Amendments Clarification of Detailed Policy Proposals

- Public transport and road space usage - improved decision making (Section 3.3)
- Network design/service specification - clarification of Agency's role (Section 5.10)
- Access to bus stations - clarification of Agency's role (Section 5.10)
- Legislation- clarification of need (Section 5.13)
- Contracting regime and continued role of private operators (Sections 6.3/6.7/6.9)
- Property and vehicles - vesting powers, disposal powers (Sections 6.24/6.25)
- Off vehicle ticketing (Section 6.33)
- Developer contributions (Section 6.36)
- "Next Steps" Chapter 7



Consultation Documents: Amendments Summary Document

- Public transport and road space usage-improved decision making and control (Section 2.1)
- Potential to regulate fares non-contracted services where public subsidy be payable (Section 4.3)
- Proposed timescales for the reform and the need for legislative change (new Section 10)



Next Steps

- Finalise Consultation Documents
- Seek Executive approval to consultation process
- Public consultation period November - February
- Finalise policy produce final consultation documents and draft instructions
- Draft Bill - must be introduced to Assembly stages by June 2010

