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UK Urban Transport Voice



News

Welcome



At the start of 2016 *pteg* changed its name to the Urban Transport Group and welcomed Transport for London as full members. For the first time the UK now has a network which brings together the largest city region public sector transport authorities. As a network we do three things - make the case for urban transport; provide a professional network which shares good practice and does more for less; provide thought leadership for the wider

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News from the Urban Transport Group - the UK's network of city and city region transport authorities.

Representing Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, London, North East, Sheffield City Region, West Midlands, West Yorkshire.

Bristol and the West of England, Nottingham City Council and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport are associate members.

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sector.

As the voice of UK urban transport we also want to play a greater role in Europe and the wider world through:

- Learning from the approaches that counterpart urban areas are taking to common problems and challenges as well as sharing the solutions that UK cities and city regions are adopting.
- Working with relevant bodies, federations and networks at the national, European and global level to make the case for urban transport, to share good practice and to develop professional networks.
- Make our contribution to shaping the policies of European and International bodies on transport's role in wider urban policy.

This quarterly e-update aims to provide you an insight into key developments and good practice in UK urban transport, as well as a UK city region transport authority perspective on transport policy making at a European and International level.

News: Devolution gathers pace



Following the success of devolution of transport powers in London and Scotland, devolution is accelerating elsewhere in the

UK. [New buses legislation](#) is expected to give transport authorities in England more effective tools to plan and coordinate bus services – including the franchising of bus networks. Powers over local rail services are also being devolved, with rail services in the North of England the latest to benefit from devolution through [Rail North](#), the body responsible to local government in the North. Meanwhile new pan-regional bodies for the North ([‘Transport for the North’](#)) and the [Midlands](#) have been created to determine strategic infrastructure priorities in their respective regions.

Policy: Horizon Scan



Our major urban areas are experiencing a period of accelerating technological and social change. Demographics, the capabilities of smart devices, the expectations of citizens, and even the climate itself are all changing. The pace of change can be bewildering, as in a few short years new developments, from social media to Uber, move rapidly from the margins to the mainstream. The challenge for our cities is how they respond. Will they be swamped, constantly playing catch up to successive waves of change? Or will they be forward thinking and respond dynamically, intelligently and adeptly? In our new Horizon Scan report ([which can be downloaded](#)

[here](#)) we seek to provide a concise summary and horizon scan of likely transformative trends, the implications for urban transport policy, and how forward thinking cities and city regions might respond.

Policy: Liverpool brings dementia-friendly transport to Brussels



A seminar on 'Getting on Track: Accessible Transport for Older People' took place in Brussels in October. It was organised by Liverpool City Region in cooperation with six other EU regions, as well as EU networks AGE Platform Europe and Polis.

It attempted to unlock the social and economic potential of smart solutions for accessible transport for older people and allow participants to discover:

- The importance of cycling and walking for physical and mental health;
- How communities gain resilience by providing smart transport solutions for people with dementia;
- The benefits of providing smart bicycles for older people and people with disabilities.

The Liverpool City Region speakers were from [Life Story](#), a local voluntary sector network working specifically on transport and dementia.

Policy: Transport Works



We support and maintain the '[Transport Works](http://www.transportworks.org)' website which brings together the evidence-base for investing in urban transport all-in-one-place. The website also sets out the evidence by topic and in both concise 'capsule' form as well as in depth. Have a look for yourself at www.transportworks.org.

Profile : Devolution, integration and franchising in the Netherlands



[A new report](#) by the Urban Transport Group provides a comprehensive overview of how the Netherlands has devolved responsibilities for local transport whilst still maintaining a level of integration on fares, services and information that goes well beyond that in the UK. It also takes an in-depth look at the different formats for the delivery of local bus services (and wider public transport networks) and the lessons that can be learned.

Contact us



If you would like any further information about any of the items above, or have a query please contact the Brussels Team:

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