

PTIC

Background setting out what had happened since the 1990s in relation to travel information to be incorporated in a response to DfT consultation

The Public Transport Information Coordination group (PTIC) represents a community of transport professionals from transport authorities and system suppliers that have been working together over several decades to improve passenger transport information.

The UK leads the world in the quality and extent of its coordinated information. The deregulation of public transport could have led to a fragmentation, but fearing the partial and incomplete information that might have resulted, professionals in the industry have worked with government to adopt standards for data exchange and put in place a number of voluntary agreements which support cooperation.

The results of this are that the UK now has several national information services for public transport information that are multi-modal and seamlessly cover England, Scotland and Wales. These include Traveline and Google Maps. Other services such as City Mapper and Moovit are growing fast to cover more cities and all are presenting information from the same underlying data source which is from transport operators via the Traveline National Data Set (TNDS).

Bus Reform gives an opportunity to introduce improvements to the accuracy and timeliness of the data as well as possible efficiency savings. These are most likely to occur if there are changes to the way that bus services are registered. However there are also dangers, if there is a lot of devolution to regions, that there will be a weakening of the requirement to provide data consistently to a national service.

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