



Imtac Work Programme 2015/16

April 2015

Imtac is committed to make information about our work accessible. Details of how we can do this and how to contact us are included on the next page.

Making our information accessible

As an organisation of and for disabled people and older people Imtac recognises that the way information is provided can be a barrier to accessing services and participation in public life. We are committed to providing information about our work in formats that best suit the needs of individuals.

All our documents are available in hard copy in 14pt type size as standard. We also provide word and pdf versions of our documents on our website – www.imtac.org.uk. In addition we will provide information in a range of other formats. These formats include:

- Large print
- Audio cassette or CD
- Daisy disc
- Braille
- Electronic copies on disc or via email in PDF or word
- Easy read

We will also provide information about our work in other languages if you require this.

If you would like this publication in any of the formats listed above or if you have any other information requirements please contact:

Michael Lorimer
Imtac
Titanic Suites
55-59 Adelaide Street
Belfast BT2 8FE

Telephone/Textphone: 028 9072 6020

Fax: 028 9024 5500

Email: info@imtac.org.uk

About us

Imtac is a committee of disabled people and older people as well as others including key transport professionals. Our role is to advise Government and others in Northern Ireland on issues that affect the mobility of older people and disabled people.

Our aim is to ensure that older people and disabled people have the same opportunities as everyone else to travel when and where they want.

Imtac receives support from the Department for Regional Development.

About our Work Programme

The role of Imtac was defined in the Accessible Transport Strategy (ATS) published by the Department for Regional Development in 2005. The ATS requires Imtac to publish a work programme each year “detailing such transport matters that affect older people and people with disabilities [disabled people] as the committee think appropriate.”

Our work programme 2015/2016 reflects this requirement and is based on key issues identified through consultation with our stakeholders including disabled people, older people and their organisations, policy makers, transport providers and other key stakeholders including the Consumer Council and Equality Commission.

Imtac routinely undertakes a number of key tasks as requirements of the Accessible Transport Strategy as well as assisting Government deliver key actions arising out of the Strategy. These routine tasks include:

- Responding to consultations
- Responding to requests for advice and information from our stakeholders

- Raising issues relevant to older people and disabled people with our stakeholders
- Distributing information about services and policies to our stakeholders
- Holding a open and accessible recruitment process for members of Imtac each year
- Consulting on our work programme each year
- Providing training and support to members
- Holding at least 4 meetings of Imtac each year
- Submitting a report in June each year to the Minister for Regional Development outlining our achievements and advice to the Minister on transport matters that affect older people and disabled people as the committee think appropriate
- Other measures to involve a wide range of older people and disabled people in the work areas of imtac

Work Programme 2015/16 priorities

This year will see the end of the current Accessible Transport Strategy (ATS). Imtac welcomes and supports the decision by the DRD to develop another ATS in 2015 to build on the progress made to date. The major priority for the Committee in 2015/16 will be to assist and advise the Department in developing this new Strategy.

In addition to this work Imtac also plans to undertake tasks that support Executive commitments made in the Disability Strategy and wider obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. Our tasks will address two key areas (1) engagement with disabled and older people and (2) accessibility.

2015/16 will be a challenging time for Government in Northern Ireland. Like many organisations Imtac will be required to contribute to the savings that DRD is required to make. A priority for the Committee is to examine how we can better utilise reduced resources as well as looking at longer-term measures that can make the organisation more sustainable.

Work Programme 2015/16 tasks

Supporting the development of the new Accessible Transport Strategy (ATS) 2025

Task 1

Imtac will review the results of the “Disabled and older peoples attitudes to public transport survey”, providing DRD with recommendations on issues highlighted by the survey. We will complete this work by the end of May 2015.

Task 2

Imtac will advise the DRD on key indicators to be included within the ATS 2025 to assist in measuring progress towards a more inclusive and accessible transport system. We will complete this work by the end of May 2015.

Task 3

Imtac will advise the DRD on the development of the ATS 2025 document. This work will be complete by December 2015.

Supporting better engagement with disabled people and older people

Task 4

Imtac will produce a template for improved engagement with older and disabled people designed to assist Government and others develop more inclusive transport policies and services. We will complete this work by December 2015.

Supporting more accessible travel

Task 5

Over the past few years Imtac has worked with DRD and DSD to raise awareness of the need to improve access to the pedestrian environment. In 2016 Councils in Northern Ireland will take over responsibility for public realm improvements.

In preparation for this change, Imtac will seek to raise awareness within new councils of inclusive design in relation to the pedestrian environment. In undertaking this task we will seek to work with others including NILGA. We will complete this work by March 2016.

Task 6

Imtac will work DRD and Translink to agree actions to improve information about station and vehicle accessibility. We will complete this work by March 2016.

Task 7

Imtac will continue to advise DRD on the development of major projects including Belfast Rapid Transit and Integrated Transport.

Developing as an organisation

Task 8

Like many organisations Imtac will have to operate in a more challenging financial environment in coming years. This year Imtac will undertake a review of how we work and where necessary, develop proposals to make the organisation more effective and sustainable. We will complete this work by September 2015.

Task 9

Imtac and DRD will review the current Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations. This work will be complete by December 2015.

Delivery and Monitoring Progress

Imtac will undertake all tasks in the next year. Where appropriate tasks will be allocated to one of Imtac's working groups. Working groups will identify and agree the best way to achieve each task.

To ensure that we monitor progress on each of tasks in our work programme Imtac will publish a quarterly update. These will be published in July, October, January and April. The quarterly update will provide details of progress made under each task and plans for the future. Because we work with others and have limited resources sometimes we cannot progress some tasks as quickly as we would want. We will highlight where and why tasks may be delayed in our updates.