## Advice for Wheelchair Users

## What you need to know

- All buses in Belfast have ramped access and have space for a wheelchair user
- Most but not all buses outside Belfast have access for a wheelchair user
- All trains have ramped access and two spaces for wheelchair users
- Most coaches are accessible to wheelchair users
- If you need a wheelchair accessible bus or coach outside Belfast Translink require 24 hours notice before you travel
- Only some taxis are accessible to wheelchair users
- On buses the driver usually cannot provide assistance
- The DATS service is available in many towns and cities using vehicles accessible to wheelchair users

The "reference" wheelchair

- The DDA set standards for vehicles based around a reference wheelchair size
- If your wheelchair is larger than the reference wheelchair you will find public transport difficult or impossible to use

## Things to think about

- If you use a scooter you may have difficulties accessing new buses
- Does your wheelchair/scooter comply with the reference size
- Think if you need help when travelling
- If in doubt check with Translink before you travel

## **Useful Information**

Rica has produced online Guides about public transport available here <u>http://rica.org.uk/content/accessible-public-</u> <u>transport</u>.

 You may also want to visit the NI Direct Website at <u>www.nidirect.gov.uk</u>

You may also be interested in these other factsheets

- Transport and Your Rights
- Planning Your Journey
- If Things Go Wrong
- Bus Services In Belfast
- Bus Services Outside Belfast
- Travelling By Train
- Travelling By Coaches
- Travelling By Taxis
- DATS
- Rural Transport