



Imtac Work Programme 2018/19

(May 2018)

Imtac is committed to making information about our work accessible. Details of how to obtain information in your preferred format 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
- Information about our work in other languages

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

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About Imtac

The Inclusive Mobility and Transport Advisory Committee (Imtac) is a committee of disabled people and older people as well as others including key transport professionals. Its role is to advise Government and others in Northern Ireland on issues that affect the mobility of older people and disabled people.

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

Imtac receives support from the Department for Infrastructure (herein after referred to as the Department).

About this Work Programme

The role of Imtac was defined in the Accessible Transport Strategy (ATS) 2015 published in 2005. The ATS required 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 thinks appropriate.”

Imtac routinely undertakes a number of core tasks. These core 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 an 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 each year

- Submitting a report in June each year to the Minister for Infrastructure outlining its 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 priorities 2018/19

Three key priorities have influenced the tasks included in Imtac's work programme for 2018/19.

1 The Programme for Government Delivery Plans

The current political situation means the Department is unable to progress a successor strategy to the Accessible Transport Strategy. In the absence of a new ATS and associated Delivery Plan Imtac will seek to ensure that measures associated with the Programme for Government Delivery Plans maximise the commitment "to have a transport network that is inclusive and accessible to all".

2 The United Nation Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities

As the UK is a signatory, Government Departments in Northern Ireland have obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNCRC) to ensure equality for disabled people. Raising awareness of the UNCRC and assisting Government to meet their obligations under the Convention, particularly with respect to access to transport, is a priority for Imtac. Although each Article of the Convention is important the Committee will prioritise the following Articles through its work:

Article 8 – Awareness raising – adopt measures that raise awareness and respect for the rights of disabled people, combat stereotypes, prejudices and harmful practices and promotes awareness of the capabilities and contributions of disabled people.

Article 9 Accessibility – ensure barriers that disabled people face in buildings, the outdoors, transport, information, communications and services are eliminated and that these apply to people living in both urban and rural areas.

Article 20 Personal mobility – ensure disabled people can move around with the greatest possible independence.

Article 21 Freedom of expression and opinion and access to information – ensure disabled people have the same right as other people to give and receive information.

Article 29 Participation in political and public life – encourage disabled people to be involved in the work of Government and to participate in public affairs.

Article 31 Statistics and data collection – collect and look at statistics and other information that puts the UNCRPD into practice.

3 Involving disabled people and older people in its work

Imtac firmly advocates that disabled people and older people themselves are best placed to advise Government and others on issues that affect their lives. It is a priority for the Committee to involving wider groups of disabled people and older people in the delivery of this work programme.

Work Programme tasks 2018/19

Supporting the Programme for Government Delivery Plans

Task 1

Imtac will provide advice to support the Programme for Government Delivery Plans.

Improving accessibility

Task 2

Imtac will provide detailed advice on key public transport infrastructure projects including the Belfast Transport Hub, the North West Transport Hub, Belfast Rapid Transport (Glider) and the Ticketing Replacement Project.

Task 3

Imtac will provide detailed advice on inclusive vehicle design for all services with particular regard to Translink's bus and train purchase programmes, commercial bus operators and the review of availability of wheelchair accessible taxis.

Task 4

Imtac will provide detailed advice on measures to improve walking and cycling infrastructure including schemes developed by DfI Roads and the Cycling Unit as well as public realm projects developed by the Department for Communities and local councils.

Task 5

Imtac will participate in the work of DfI Planning Policy's Strategic Design Group and be involved in associated projects, such as "Better Bedford Street, designed to promote inclusive place making.

Personal mobility

Task 6

Imtac will provide advice and support to the Driver Vehicle Agency (DVA) during the implementation of reforms to learner and restricted drivers associated with Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL).

Access to information

Task 7

Imtac will provide detailed advice on revisions to the content on NI Direct relating to transport, disabled people and older people and the review of the Travel Safe Guide.

Task 8

Imtac will provide detailed advice to Translink on the redesign of its website.

Awareness raising

Task 9

Imtac will provide detailed advice to Translink around staff training requirements and for the promotion of the Glider service.

Task 10

Imtac will provide advice and support to Translink around measures to promote respect for designated wheelchair user priority spaces on buses, coaches, Glider and trains.

Encouraging participation in public life

Task 11

Imtac will seek to develop additional outreach activities aimed at increasing the participation of more disabled people and older people in its work and wider policy and service development. Measures will include:

- Holding a number of public meetings at locations across Northern Ireland.
- Holding specific engagement events with Deaf people and people with hearing loss.
- Working with Translink, trial a number of participation events for disabled people and older people at local depots and stations.

Statistics and data collection

Task 12

Imtac will assist the Department undertake a survey of the experiences of older people and disabled people using taxis.

Task 13

Imtac will assist the Department to develop a survey of the experiences of disabled people and older people using community transport services.

Task 14

Imtac will assist the Department develop proposals to repeat the survey of the experiences of older people and disabled people using public transport.

Task 15

Imtac will develop a research proposal examining to what extent current Health Trust Wheelchair Services contribute to better travel opportunities for disabled people and older people.

Completion of 2017/18 Tasks

Task 17

Imtac will complete outstanding tasks from its 2017/18 Work Programme. These are:

- Imtac will develop an agreed template that will be used to measure the accessibility of current bus and train stations and halts in Northern Ireland (Task 5)

- Imtac will develop a report assessing the impact of licensing in its first year of operation (Task 10)
- Imtac will work with Translink to establish a working group of disabled people and older people (Task 15)
- Imtac and the Department will undertake a review of its current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (Task 17)

The Committee will also continue to explore options for developing a comprehensive online resource for older people and disabled people on issues around travel and transport (Task 11).

Delivery and Monitoring Progress

Imtac will undertake these tasks and monitor progress of each in the next year. To ensure that it complies with its work programme Imtac will submit quarterly updates to the Department for review. . These will be published in July, October, January and April and will provide details of progress made under each task and plans for the future. As Imtac relies on working with others and has limited resources sometimes it cannot progress some tasks as quickly as the Committee would want. The Committee will highlight where and why tasks may be delayed in its updates.