

## What's on

The calendar below shows key events over the next few months, from RTIG and our associates. For further details of RTIG events please contact [secretariat@rtig.org.uk](mailto:secretariat@rtig.org.uk)

### RTIG Webinars

- 7 April 2021, virtual  
National Bus Strategy Support Requirements
- 22 April 2021, virtual  
Achieving commercial benefit from passenger counting

More webinars will be announced as the month progresses. For booking details see the website.

### Committee

12 May 2021, Virtual

### Bus Open Data Service Events

the full list of regularly updated events here:  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/bus-open-data-service-31561104991>

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### DfT News

#### In other news: around the patch

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[The Wales Transport Strategy 2021](#)  
[DATA4PT Training Webinar on Transmodel](#)

### Members' news: showcasing innovation

#### Admin: useful facts about RTIG

[Committee members](#)  
[Contact us](#)



**For all administrative matters and enquiries please contact:**

RTIG Secretariat, c/o Tim Rivett Consulting Ltd,  
36 Fields End, Sheffield, S36 8WH

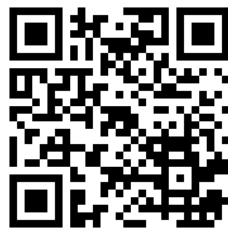
Tel: +44 (0) 1226 762712  
Email: [secretariat@rtig.org.uk](mailto:secretariat@rtig.org.uk)  
Web: [www.rtig.org.uk](http://www.rtig.org.uk)

## Newsletter Frequency and Email Alerts

The newsletters are produced on a monthly cycle.

They will be posted on the RTIG website and emailed out to the newsletter contact list.

If you think a colleague or contact would benefit from receiving the RTIG newsletter then please ask them to fill out the form on the website or use the QR Code.



## RTIG on Twitter

RTIG is now on twitter as @RtigInform

<https://twitter.com/RtigInform>

## Photo Library

To help liven up RTIG printed and digital outputs we are interested in receiving any images of public transport information real time or otherwise that you would be happy for us to use.

We will of course credit the appropriate source if published.

If you have any material you would be able to let us have access to please contact Tim [tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk](mailto:tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk)

## Working Groups

If anyone wants to become involved in any of the work packages in the business plan then please feel free to discuss or commit by getting in contact with Tim [tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk](mailto:tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk).

## Annual General Meeting 2021



The 2021 AGM was held on 18th March 2020, thank you to those who turned up.

We reviewed the work achieved during 2020-21, looked at the forthcoming years business plan which was agreed along with the subscriber terms and benefits.

The draft minutes can be viewed here:

<https://www.rtig.org.uk/system/files/workshops/AGM2021Minutes.pdf>

The recording of the meeting is:

<https://youtu.be/5ieJH1LUZSU>

## 2021-22 Business Plan

Now we are in April (*where has the first part of the year gone?*) the new 2020/21 business plan has started

At the moment the plans include activity in these general areas:

- Foundations of real time
- Providing customer information
- Support for the bus open data programme
- Support for accessible information requirements
- Smart transport systems
- Towards Net Zero Carbon
- Transport innovations
- National and international standardisation and cooperation

The full plan is available on the website:

<https://www.rtig.org.uk/system/files/documents/RTIGC069-1-0%20Business%20Plan%2021-22%20External.pdf>

If you want to get involved in any of the projects in the plan then please get in touch, the initial round of working groups are being setup – see the next few articles for more information.

If you want to get involved in any of them or have any questions about the business please then please get in touch with Tim [tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk](mailto:tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk) .

## Environmental Impact of Displays



# Environmental Impact of Displays

There are a bewildering range of displays on offer from suppliers from LED to TFT powered by mains, battery and solar.

With the climate emergency and environmental concerns high in peoples minds the impact of our choices of technology need to be considered more than ever.

Purchasing and environmental teams are increasing expecting questions to be asked whenever equipment is purchased.

What is the impact of the choices we make?  
Do we know which technologies are better for the environment?  
Do we know the carbon impact of different display types and technologies?

We do not know the answers to these at RTIG, neither do we know if these are even the right questions to be asking.

To help make sure we ask the right questions and are able to help people with finding the answers we are setting up a new working group to look at the environmental and carbon impact of different display technologies and power suppliers.

If you have some of the answers, or more questions to ask, or just want to find out more then please get in touch with [tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk](mailto:tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk) and join the working group.

## On Bus Audio Visual Display Implementations

There are an increasing number of successful on-bus audio visual deployments in the UK with more being installed all the time.

Once the long-awaited Accessible Information requirements for the Bus Service Act 2017 are published there will be a large number of operators with no or little experience of specifying, selecting, installing and maintaining on bus audio visual systems.



We plan to produce a series of case studies of best practice implementations and advice on specifying, selecting, installing and maintaining systems.

If you think you have experience that you would be willing to share with others, or think you have a good system then please get in touch.

## Hearing Loops

During the pandemic, bus operators introduced Perspex screens between the driver and passenger to help provide protection from COVID-19. This barrier increased the challenge for passengers and drivers who have hearing problems.

The use of audio induction loops (hearing aid loops) and other solutions will help to alleviate some of the resultant problems.



The requirement will form part of the future vehicle requirements as seen in the new zero-emission buses scheme (see [Multi-million pound scheme for zero-emission buses across England launched](#)).

We will be producing an advice note for operators.  
If you want to be involved in the group creating this then please let us know.

## Passenger Counting Solutions Working Group

Following on from the webinars that we have been holding about passenger counting technology and its use for providing customer information we are forming a working group to report on the different technologies and produce some best practice implementation advice.



If you want to be involved in the working group creating these reports then please let us know.

## Traffic Light Priority Trigger File Standard



The Traffic Light Priority Trigger Position File working has produced a new standard and schema for review:

RTIGT042 Traffic Light Priority Trigger Position File Format  
This includes an XML schema of the format.

In addition to the new standard and document the group has also updated:

- RTIGT008 TLP and Cleardown Specification
- RTIGT030 Digital air interface protocol

- RTIGT031 Centre-centre bus priority protocol

These documents are all available through the members section of website.

## Glossary

We have added a new Glossary section to the website:

<https://www.rtig.org.uk/glossary>



This includes all the Acronyms and terms that have been regularly used by RTIG over the last few years.

There are many more that could or should be included. If you want to see others included then drop us a quick email.

## Webinars

With the inability to physically meet for the foreseeable future we have been running some webinars instead.

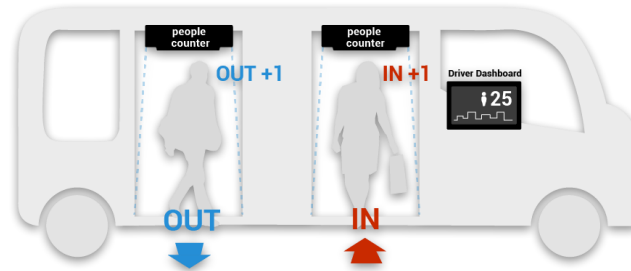
All these webinars are being recorded and available on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.rtig.org.uk/youtube>





## Achieving commercial benefit from passenger counting



Following on from recent webinars that RTIG has run about the technology and customer information sides of passenger counting we have received some interest in finding out more, particularly how to make the commercial business case for the investment and how to make good use the data available from passenger counting systems internally.

We will be holding a webinar about this on Thursday 22nd April 13:00 – 1400.

Book your ticket:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/achieving-commercial-benefit-from-passenger-counting-tickets-148780700079>

## National Bus Strategy Support Requirements



With the recent launch of the National Bus Strategy for England there is a lot to achieve in a short space of time no matter the role you play in the industry. Everyone bus operators, authorities, suppliers and consultants have their part to play in achieving success .

RTIG is here to help and we while we already have a material that will be able to help you, we know it is not enough and would like to hear directly from you.



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We want to understand what help you want and need to deliver the bus strategy and what RTiG could be doing to help.

This will be an open discussion between members to help shape the support RTiG provides to help you succeed.

Wednesday, April 7, 2021 - 15:30

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/national-bus-strategy-support-tickets-148329679063>

## Calling all NaPTAN Authority contacts

Over the last 20 years the list of who is responsible for the data coming into NaPTAN has been through some changes. For the next step of the redevelopment we are building the definitive list of Local Transport Authorities and a responsible person for each one.

We have in a few cases an agent's name, or an email address that is no longer valid, and we want to verify with the Local Transport Authority themselves to have a complete record. If you are a responsible person for a Local Transport Authority please get in contact with us [j.harrison@dft.gov.uk](mailto:j.harrison@dft.gov.uk)

## NaPTAN Project Update

In March the project held a public meeting to let everyone know what we are doing – you can access the recording of this meeting on the RTIG YouTube channel:

<https://youtu.be/0lsQ1YvE3Sc>

There we talked through the scope and the vision of the redevelopment of NaPTAN. If you would like to give your thoughts on the scope and vision – you can comment on the Mural board here:

<https://bit.ly/2PKv764>

In the meeting we also talked through what we have learnt from the public meetings we have been running since November 2020 – and what public meetings we are planning in the next months. You can view the Mural board here:

<https://bit.ly/2QQJ3MF>

## Multi-million pound scheme for zero-emission buses across England launched

At the end of March the DfT launched a multimillion-pound scheme to enable local transport authorities to roll out zero-emission buses.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/multi-million-pound-scheme-for-zero-emission-buses-across-england-launched>

Many of these requirements are outside of the remit of RTIG, it is worth noting though that there is the requirement for vehicles to be compliant with the Public Service Vehicles Accessibility Regulations 2000 (PSVAR) as you would expect and in addition:

- Incorporate equipment to identify the route, each upcoming stop, and the beginning and end of diversions:
  - o Visibly, using at least one screen on any deck, with the lower deck screen visible from all priority seats;
  - o Audibly, with announcements audible on any deck, including in the priority seats and wheelchair space; and
  - o Using induction loops, in priority seats and the wheelchair space.
- Provide an induction loop to aid direct communication between drivers and passengers who use a hearing aid.

These are areas that we have been working on with the DfT through the Accessible Information Grant and want to develop guidance and standards to support the wide adoption of these technologies.

## National Bus Strategy for England

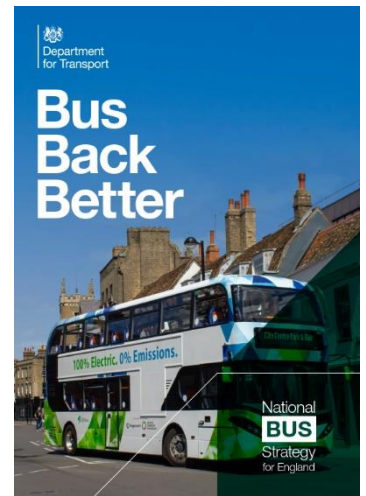
The biggest news this month has to be launch of the much-anticipated national bus strategy for England.

There is a lot to take in from the strategy, but one thing is certain is that everyone is going to have to pick up the pace and move quickly with bus service improvement plans, enhanced partnerships and franchising.

The expectations for improvement plans contain some significant challenges for public transport information and priority where RTIG already has tools to help authorities and operators.

Improvement plans need to:

- Set targets for journey times and reliability.
- Introduce bus priority.
- Improve integration.
- High quality up to date information including maps.
- Accessible information.
- Real time information.



To support the necessary changes there are plans for a Buses Centre of Excellence, something we are keeping a close eye on and have already written to the Minister to offer assistance with given our previous experience, expertise and material.

RTIG is here to help and while we already have a material that will be able to help you, we know it is not enough and would like to hear directly from you.

We want to understand what help you want and need to deliver the bus strategy and what RTIG could be doing to help. To help understand your requirements we have a discussion on the 7<sup>th</sup> April (see above for more details).

## The Wales Transport Strategy 2021



Hot on the heels of the English strategy is the Welsh Transport Strategy.

This contains a number of actions that have information and data elements as well as a focus on

active travel and integration between modes.

For example:

- For bus and rail, we will continue to gather more specific data on punctuality, use, reliability, safety and service provision as well as barriers to use.
- We will also recognise the importance of integration between transport modes, through our Integrated Journey Planning Pathway.
- address congestion hotspots and invest in bus stations and stops to speed up journeys and improve passenger experiences
- deliver innovative, more flexible bus services, in partnership with local authorities, the commercial and third sectors.
- support the Traffic Commissioner in implementing an effective
- enforcement regime that helps to improve reliability and journey times for passengers
- prepare Welsh language standards for those who provide bus services in Wales

## DATA4PT Training Webinar on Transmodel

Save the date! On 12 April, the experts from DATA4PT will be organising a Training Webinar on Transmodel.



The webinar is created for both managers and technical staff responsible for the implementation of the Transmodel standard ecosystem : NeTEx and SIRI according to regulation 2017/1926.

The webinar will be structured into 2 parts:

- Part 1 “Introduction on standards ecosystem” will be focused on EU requirements, Member States implementations, functional scope of Transmodel, NeTEx and SIRI, mapping and complementarities with GTFS and data validation expectations.
- Part 2 “Introduction on Transmodel what is it, what it includes, what is new” will address detailed content, version management, use cases, different data workflows and implementation examples.

The full agenda will come soon, so stay tuned!

You can already register for the webinar here:

<https://efficy.uitp.org/onlinereg/?e=7363&ext=1&p=-1&rk=online>

## Block Ticketing Exemption Consultation

Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has started a call for evidence to inform a review of the Public Transport Ticketing Schemes Block Exemption (the Block Exemption), which was introduced in 2001 by the Competition Act 1998.

They are wanting views and evidence on:

- the objectives intended to be achieved by the public transport ticketing scheme block exemption
- the extent to which those objectives are achieved
- whether those objectives remain appropriate and, if so, the extent to which they could be achieved with a system that imposes less regulation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/public-transport-ticketing-scheme-block-exemption-call-for-evidence>



## Keeping in touch with you

As well as keeping you up to date with all the latest news from RTIG, this newsletter aims to provide a community forum for members. We therefore offer RTIG members the opportunity to submit a short article here on any issue or innovation that might be of interest to the community.

There are two ways of becoming involved in this:

- ▶ Email pieces to us when you have them – press release format is fine, and pictures are welcome.
- ▶ Nominate a marketing contact who will be included in the editor's monthly process of 'chivvying'.



Buchanan Bus Station have unveiled their new 75" TFT passenger information displays manufactured and installed by the Trueform.



## initplan and initperdis merge to form INIT Mobility Software Solutions

The public transport sector is in a phase of technological and economic upheaval. This situation is compounded by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, which requires new solutions to be found in response to changing customer needs, with broader, more integrated IT solutions. As a worldwide leading supplier of integrated planning, dispatching, telematics and ticketing systems for buses and trains, init innovation in traffic systems SE (INIT) is at the cutting edge of this development and has now responded with a restructuring of their organization.

Its previously independent subsidiaries initplan and initperdis, responsible for planning and personnel dispatching systems, have now been amalgamated to form INIT Mobility Software Solutions GmbH to better serve the current requirements of transport companies.

“Planning and dispatching are core operational processes of a transport company. We are confident that the consolidation of our two companies is a great step in helping us serve the needs of our customers even more effectively and efficiently. The new INIT company occupies a stronger market position than the previously separate entities, with more resources in development, enabling us to respond even faster to new customer requirements,” says Ulrich Schmidt, Managing Director of INIT Mobility Software Solutions GmbH.

## Leading operators taking advantage of Journeo's cloud technologies

First Bus and Abellio are among leading UK operators taking advantage of the Journeo Transit cloud platform by installing the Journeo EDGE intelligent gateway on their fleets, enabling them to connect on-board systems to new cloud services.

The EDGE is a small, intelligent automotive gateway, and once Journeo's technicians have installed it, the Transit platform offers operators remote access to systems previously only a visit to the bus could achieve. This has been of particular benefit to socially distanced operations in the last twelve months.

First Bus is midway through a major rollout of the EDGE connected to the Transit video and health modules. This is in addition to the 2000 vehicles already sending CCTV health data and helping First Bus to continue to improve its level of successful video downloads. Michelle Grosvenor, Head of Insurance, comments, “Using Journeo Transit, our evidence collection process has become much more efficient, increasing the efficiency and speed with which we can assess and respond to claims, or provide data to third parties, such as the police. We have been using the remote health monitoring for some time now and seen it increase download availability substantially, so we are now in a position that we have more evidence available and are able to access it faster.”

Following the launch of the Journeo Transit platform a little over 12 months ago, the secure cloud-based portal now has in excess of 2000 vehicle connections, delivering operators information on system health, remote CCTV downloads and automatic passenger counting statistics, all in real time.

The powerful and secure Journeo Edge intelligent gateway handles communication between on-board systems, maintaining continuous health checks with components of all connected systems, such as CCTV DVRs and cameras, fire suppressant equipment and even vehicle diagnostic information via the CANBus.

A major benefit enjoyed by Journeo Transit users is the agnostic design of its video download function. Configured to work with all major CCTV systems in use throughout the UK in the last 10 years, the cloud-based portal enables users to request their evidence downloads from anywhere with an internet connection. Footage is transferred to the secure EvidenceSafe via the encrypted 4G connection, dramatically reducing the amount of time it takes CCTV analysts to gather and assess the captured footage.

## Passenger Championing Accessibility – It’s everyone’s journey

Passenger products are built to be as accessible as possible, reflecting one of our core values – empathy and inclusivity – connecting with people to see things through their eyes.

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Public transport is a service for everyone, and one that serves to enrich the lives of all its users. By ensuring your services can be used by as many people as possible, you increase your reach and encourage uptake and advocacy.

As the Department for Transport (DfT) campaign to enable more disabled people to use public transport with confidence reminds us – it's everyone's journey. To ensure that's the case, accessibility considerations must be given a high priority as supporting one customer segment over another, regardless of size, is simply discriminatory.

Accessibility, sometimes referred to as a11y, appears on a business' radar in varying degrees. Some may not consider people with accessibility needs to be part of their audience, while others might feel overwhelmed by the needed adjustments. Wherever you start, it's important to begin by understanding that it's an ongoing journey, not a one-off task.

<https://www.discoverpassenger.com/2021/03/29/championing-accessibility-its-everyones-journey/>

## Management Committee Members

The Management Committee for the year 2020-2021 was appointed at the AGM on 18 March 2021. Membership is currently as follows:

Chair: Tony Brown

Members: Andrew Wilson (Hants), Graham Davies (WYCA), Russell Gard (React Accessibility), Darren Maher (21<sup>st</sup> Century), Tony Brown (Atkins), George Connell (Stagecoach), Simon Gold (Reading Buses), Meera Nayyar (DfT)

## Contact us

Best by email: [secretariat@rtig.org.uk](mailto:secretariat@rtig.org.uk).

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8557065>

## Next issue

Issue 141 – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021.

Please send all contributions to [secretariat@rtig.org.uk](mailto:secretariat@rtig.org.uk) at any time up to Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

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