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

Webinars
Multiple   Data Standards Series
Multiple   Accessible Information Regulations and Grant

Workshops
2 Oct   Practical Bus Priority – Birmingham
15 Oct   Future of On Bus Equipment - Leeds

For booking details and additional events see the website.

Working Groups
OpRa Mirror Group
Future Bus Priority
Accessible Information

PTIC
18 Sept   Virtual

Conferences
23 – 24 Sept Quality Bus - Portsmouth

NEWS & EVENTS

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.

Social Media

RTIG is on these social media channels:

Linkedin
https://www.linkedin.com/company/12119271/

Bluesky
https://bsky.app/profile/rtig.org.uk

Instagram:
https://www.instagram.com/rtig_inform/

Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/RTIGInform

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 .

OpRa UK Mirror Group – Historical and Performance Data

OpRa will be the next data standard in the Transmodel framework – for historical and performance data.

The European project group is finally starting the technical work on its development, Tim Rivett is directly involved in this work, to support it and make sure that the UK has more than just Tim's view of what is needed RTIG are setting up a mirror working group.

The working group will initially review the use cases which were included in the original scoping work which led to a TR standard.
We can then keep an eye on the technical work as it progresses to implement the use cases – XSD and documentation.

A bit more on OpRa:
https://www.opra-cen.eu/
there is also the obligatory YouTube of a presentation from last summer:
https://youtu.be/2YDAWKXnsr0

We have had two meetings with the next planned for early September.

To get involved in this group please get in touch tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk

Definition of Terms used for Reporting and Metrics

One of the tasks that the OpRa working group is to understand what different terms used in measuring performance and in reporting mean.

At the moment there are often misunderstandings and differences in definitions for common metrics – what "On Time" means is a good example – it depends on who you talk to, even with an definition from the regulator.

We have setup a document with different terms and are trying to populate it with the different definitions we have come across, and wherever possible a source for that definition.

This will help create a document of UK definitions for bus performance and reporting which can then be used to help with the implementation of OpRa in the UK, and also assist suppliers to provide reports and analytical tools which support UK requirements and improve transparency of performance reports.

Please have a look at the document and add what you use as a definition or you understand a metric to mean (along with an attributing source if possible).

https://bit.ly/metric_definitions

Future Bus Priority Working Group

At the last practical bus priority event there was plenty of discussion about the challenges of the current approach to providing bus priority. We discussed what works and where there are opportunities to do things differently and what the medium and long term futures may be and need to be able to handle.

It was agreed that the current RTIG / UDG standard T031 needs some updates to better meet requirements – a group has been reviewing this and is nearing the end of the review which will update the document and XML standard.

There was also a desire to fully review how bus priority could work in future. A working group has started to meet, but is in the early days still and new members are more than welcome.

If you want to be part of either of this working group please contact secretariat@rtig.org.uk

N E W S & E V E N T S

Accessibility of Printed and Electronic Information Working Groups

There are currently two documents which give advice on how to provide information to the passenger, one for electronic information and another for printed. The former is an RTIG document, the later originally developed by ATCO.

RTIGPR003-D002 Inclusive passenger information - A guide to good practice for bus passenger technology providers (2018)
ATCO Printed Information at Bus Stops - Good Practice Guidelines

Both documents are in need or review because of the passing of time, technology developments and changing understanding and capability.

We are setting up two working groups to provide new guidance.

If you want to be part of either of this working group please contact secretariat@rtig.org.uk

Bus Operator Accessible Information Regulations Support Grant

In March 2023, the Department for Transport announced rules that will require almost every local bus or coach service to provide audible announcements and visual displays identifying the route and direction, each upcoming stop, and the beginning of any diversions.

The government has allocated £4.65m to support smaller operators to comply with the Regulations, RTIG have been asked to manage the grant on behalf of the Department for Transport.

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N E W S & E V E N T S

On 8 April we opened applications for the Accessible Information Grant to help small bus operators with the cost of meeting the accessible information regulations. The original closing date for applications was 3rd June.

On 28 May we extended the period for which applications for the grant can be submitted to be open ended until the funding is fully committed.

Our ask is if you as someone working for an Authority, with more direct relationships with operators than ourselves at RTIG, is to pass on the message about the availability of the grant to your operators and encourage those who are eligible to apply.

If you're a small operator then please look at the application process and if you are eligible apply.

If you are a supplier please let your customers know and encourage them to apply if eligible.

To find out more about the regulations please visit:
https://www.rtig.org.uk/aig

Information on how to apply for a grant can be found at:
https://www.rtig.org.uk/aig/apply

N E W S   &   E V E N T S

Past Events

How does bus real time information work
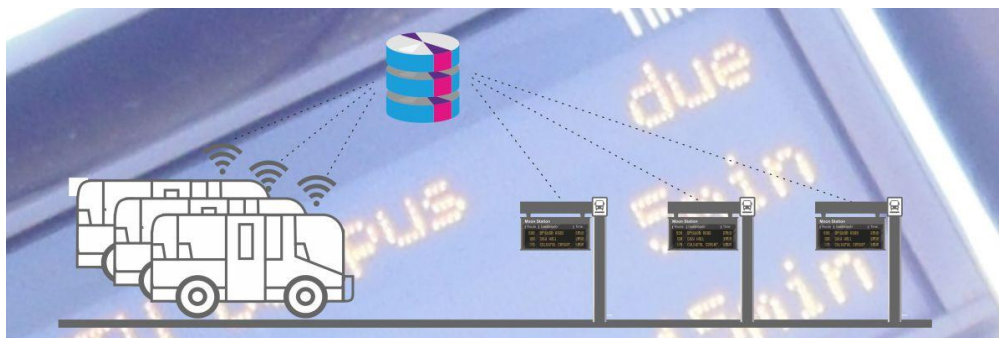
Thursday 7ᵗʰ August 2025

With the introduction of the Bus Open Data Service from the DfT it is easier than ever to access public transport data. How can timetable and location data be used to create real time information for customers?

If you've never used public transport data before then this session will introduce you to the concepts of how you can use timetable and location data to create real time information for customers - the countdown information you see on a bus stop display or on a phone app.

We will review the recent RTIG guide "How does bus real time information work" and how you can use it to help stakeholders understand the challenges involved in creating real time information.

Slides and recording available at:
https://rtig.org.uk/workshops/2025-08-07

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N E W S & E V E N T S

Next Face to Face event

Practical Bus Priority 2025

2 October 2025 10:30
Millenium Point, Birmingham

Our annual bus priority event returns to the same venue as last year.

Bus journey times continue to be one of the most significant challenges facing the bus industry. Providing priority for buses is of increasing importance and with increased attention to value to for money and efficiency, how is priority being delivered and what support do practitioners need?

This time we want the morning session agenda to be set by you the attendees. We ask you to let us know:

- What you want to know about?
- What you need help with?
- What you want to share with others about your experience?

In the afternoon we will explore:
- Updated T031 standard
- Progress of the future bus priority working group
-

Call for questions and speakers - secretariat@rtig.org.uk

To book:
https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1413942292459

The Future of On Bus Equipment

THE FUTURE OF ON BUS EQUIPMENT

15 October 2025 10:30
Leeds

What will equipment on bus look like in future?
The number of pieces of digital equipment on buses has been growing over recent years from the traditional ticket machines and a CCTV system to digital destination blinds, audio visual announcement systems, wifi, telematics and more.

With all these systems on a bus, how can we protect them against cyber incidents, how do we know if they are working properly and how can they be better managed?
What are the current and planned architectures that operators and suppliers are working on?
How are standards being developed to help?

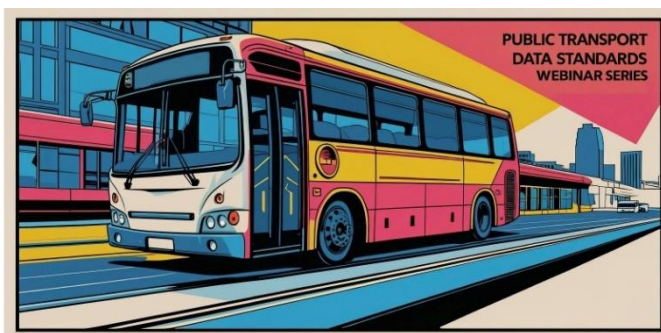At this event find out about these things, hear from and talk to those who know.

Call for speakers - secretariat@rtig.org.uk

To book:
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1550709266159

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N E W S & E V E N T S

Upcoming Webinars

Data Standards Webinar Series

We are starting a series of webinars in September on data standards.

Standards for data have been around for many years, but as we try to provide a better passenger experience they have become critical to being able to provide quality information in a timely manner. Some standards are better known and understood than others

These sessions will run every couple of weeks and cover a different standard each time, the first will provide some background on Transmodel and UK applications.

The aim is to have these as short snappy sessions with content being about 40 minutes to allow plenty of time for questions and discussion to take the overall time to an hour.

These sessions are free for members, there is a small charge for non-members to attend.

1. Introduction & Transmodel   18 September 12:00
2. NaPTAN & NPTG   30 September 12:00
3. TransXChange   16 October 12:00
6. BODS TXC profile (Let us know if you would like one on this)
4. SIRI   28 October 12:00
5. Bus Priority   13 November 12:00
7. NeTEX   27 November 12:00
8. GTFS   9 December 12:00
9. OJP   6 January 2026 12:00
10. OpRa   22 January 2026 12:00

Booking links for the events are available here:
https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/data-standards-series-4511753

RTIG INFORM
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Accessible Information Regulations & Grant

Multiple Events

In March 2023 the Department for Transport published a new statutory instrument before Parliament to introduce rules that will require almost every local bus or coach service to provide audible announcements and visual displays identifying the route and direction, each upcoming stop, and the beginning of any diversions.
New vehicles need to comply already, but the first tranche of existing vehicles need to comply from October 2024.
The government has allocated £4.65m to support smaller operators to comply with the Regulations, RTIG have been asked to manage the grant on behalf of the Department for Transport.

On Monday 8th April applications for grants to help with the cost of meeting the accessible information regulations opened.
In this webinar we will explore:
- What do the regulations say?
- What can you do to comply?
- Where would you turn to for help and information?
- Eligibility for the grant and how to apply
- Q&A

All events can be found in this collection:
https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/on-bus-accessible-information-regulations-grant-644989

All our previous webinars have been recorded and available on our YouTube channel:
https://www.rtig.org.uk/youtube

Real-Time Passenger Information Made Easy Across Europe

As we rely more and more on digital tools to navigate public transport, the need for consistent, accurate, and real-time travel information has become essential. Whether it is knowing if your train is delayed or finding out whether a lift at your metro station is working, these updates shape how we plan and experience our journeys.

To make this possible across all European countries and transport modes, CEN has developed a new technical specification: CEN/TS 15531-7:2025, better known as SIRI Part 7. This document is a key milestone in enabling seamless real-time information exchange for public transport systems across Europe.

What is SIRI?

SIRI stands for Service Interface for Real-Time Information. It is a series of deliverables (standards or technical specifications) designed to allow different public transport systems and software platforms to talk to each other in real time. For all modes of public transport, from buses and trams to subways and trains, SIRI enables data about delays, vehicle positions, disruptions, and station facilities to be shared quickly and consistently. SIRI has already been used for years in several countries, but its full potential is now being unlocked through the development of a common European profile, which brings clarity, simplicity, and interoperability.

The European Real-Time Passenger Information Profile (EPIP-RT)

The newly published SIRI Part 7 introduces the EPIP-RT, short for European Passenger Information Profile – Real-Time. It defines which types of real-time data should be shared across systems, and how. Think of it as a recipe book for real-time information towards passengers: it doesn't create new ingredients (the data) but tells everyone how to use them in the same way. This ensures that a delay reported in Brussels can be understood in Paris or Milan — and by any journey planner or app developer, too.

What Kind of Information Does EPIP-RT Cover?

The EPIP-RT focuses on the real-time data that matters most to travellers:
- Delays and cancellations: if a bus or train is running late or cancelled, the system sends immediate updates.
- Vehicle location: live tracking of public transport vehicles on a map.
- Station and stop information: from platform changes to broken elevators, relevant details are flagged as they happen.

- Disruptions: messages about strikes, construction work, or severe weather are shared in a structured, understandable way.

Behind the scenes, this is made possible using four key SIRI services:
- SIRI-ET for estimated timetables,
- SIRI-SX for disruptions and incidents,
- SIRI-VM for vehicle monitoring,
- SIRI-FM for monitoring station facilities.

Why Is This Important?

The strength of the EPIP-RT lies in its European-wide interoperability. Until now, many real-time information systems were local or national, each using different formats and rules. This created barriers to creating truly European transport apps and made integration costly for developers and operators alike.

With this new profile, data can be shared consistently and confidently — making it easier for:
- Passengers to get accurate updates, no matter where they travel.
- Transport authorities to integrate services across borders.
- Transport operators to deliver efficient services
- App developers to build innovative journey planners using harmonised data.
- Public bodies to meet EU regulation requirements with greater ease.

A Key Step Forward for Multimodal Travel

The EPIP-RT directly supports the EU's goal to offer multimodal travel information services across Member States, as set out in the ITS Directive and the Delegated Regulation on Multimodal Travel Information Services (MMTIS).

By ensuring that real-time data is available and understandable across systems, the EPIP-RT helps Europe take a significant step toward smarter, greener, and more connected mobility.

England's buses: more ambition needed to undo a decade of decline and get bums back on seats, Transport Committee tells Govt

A new Transport Committee report calls on the Government to reform the way local bus services are funded and to adopt a national ambition for a minimum level of public transport connectivity. This would protect residents in England's towns and villages from becoming increasingly isolated, MPs say.

Key findings were:
- The real-world consequences of bus decline
- Safeguarding 'socially necessary' routes
- A minimum level of connectivity
- Five-year funding deals
- Young people's life chances constrained
- The bus fare cap lacks a strategy
- Franchising not a silver bullet
- Grants should be weighted towards rural areas

Other recommendations included a possible rural weighting for bus funding, and minimum standards for bus stops, including real-time information about the next service:

63. CONCLUSION
No national framework or clear design standard to improve the overall quality of bus stop infrastructure or real time information currently exists. Poor quality facilities like damaged shelters or seats and missing or inaccurate real time information undermine bus networks by deterring passengers. People without digital access, or whose bus stops are in black spots for mobile coverage, are disproportionately affected. While some local authorities have made commendable progress in improving real time information systems, such initiatives remain the exception rather than the rule.

64. RECOMMENDATION
In order to increase ridership, the Department should establish minimum standards for bus stop facilities and the provision of real time information at bus stops where appropriate. While bus stops are used in different ways and a one-size-fits all approach may not be appropriate, improved bus stop standards should be a national aspiration.

65. RECOMMENDATION
The Department should bring forward proposals as part of its upcoming Integrated National Transport Strategy for guidance on how local authorities and transport providers can achieve more effective integration between bus timetables and those of other transport modes.

Full report is here:
https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5901/cmselect/cmtrans/494/report.html

M E M B E R S   N E W S

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'.
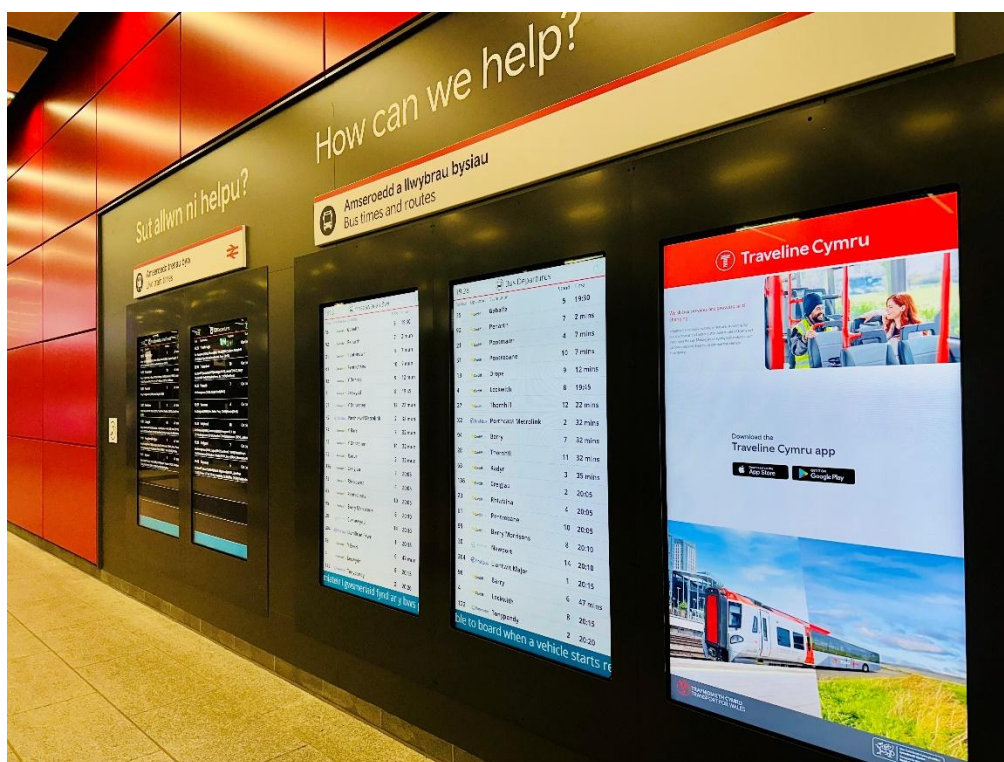
Transport for Wales, Cardiff Interchange

Tasmania's smart transportation leap - LIVE SaaS vehicle monitoring and passenger information system

The Department of State Growth, Tasmania has introduced the LIVE system, consisting of LIVEavl for automatic vehicle location and computer-aided dispatch as well as LIVErtpi for real-time passenger information. LIVE is a centralised, modular and web-based Software-as-a-Service solution developed by Mattersoft, member of the INIT Group. Buses in the state capital of Hobart and southern Tasmania as well as ferries were the first vehicles to be integrated.

https://www.initse.com/ende/news-resources/knowledge-database/articles/2025/tasmanias-smart-transportation-leap/

New Whitepaper: Sovereign infrastructure in the ITS industry for EU countries

Yunex Traffic releases an in-depth whitepaper on the role of digital sovereignty in modern traffic management systems.

In an era where traffic management centrals form part of critical national infrastructure, ensuring that cities retain full control over their systems and data has become a strategic priority. Our new whitepaper "Sovereign infrastructure in the ITS industry for EU countries" explores how European municipalities can meet stringent sovereignty and security requirements while still embracing innovation, cloud benefits, and scalability.

https://www.yunextraffic.com/newsroom/whitepaper-sovereign-infrastructure/

ADMIN

Management Committee Members

The Management Board for the year 2025-2026 was appointed at the AGM on 13 May 2025. Membership is currently as follows:

Chair: Tony Brown

Members: Sonya Sparks (Essex), Graham Davies (WYCA), Russell Gard (React Accessibility), Jon Salmon (Snapper Services), Tony Brown (Atkins), George Connell (Stagecoach), Simon Gold (Reading Buses)

Contact us

Best by email: secretariat@rtig.org.uk.

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

Next issue

Issue 195 – Wednesday 1st October 2025

Please send all contributions to secretariat@rtig.org.uk at any time up to Monday 29th September 2025.

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To subscribe: simply complete the form online, use the QR Code or email us at newsletter@rtig.org.uk with your request and a valid email address.

To unsubscribe: email with the subject "unsubscribe" – or simply reply to your notification telling us you'd like to be taken off the list.