

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

14 April	Data Standards Webinar Series – T047
16 April	Bus Use Cases for Digital Traffic Regulation Orders
30 April	Transport Data Action Plan - What it means for Bus
21 May	Managing and Communicating Disruptions in Edinburgh

For booking details and additional events see the website.

Working Groups

Future Bus Priority
Accessible Information

PTIC

4 June Virtual

Conferences

9 June Rural Bus 2026

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Members' news: showcasing innovation

Admin: useful facts about RTIG



For all administrative matters and enquiries please contact:

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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.

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

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 of review because of the passing of time, technology developments and changing understanding and capability.

We have two groups active, one looking at printed information and one on digital information.

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.

On 8 April 2024 we opened applications for the Accessible Information Grant to help small bus operators with the cost of meeting the accessible information regulations.

Applications for the grant have recently re-opened with a focus on rail replacement coaches but we expect to close applications shortly due to oversubscription.

<https://rtig.org.uk/aig/apply>

AGM

Annual General Meeting



Annual General Meeting 2026

The AGM was held on 24 March as part of the disruptions event.
Thank you to those who attended in person and online.

We reviewed what we have done in the last year and the plans for this year.

The Subscriber Terms and Benefits for 2026-27 were approved, as was the business plan.

Two directors were elected unopposed –George Connell from Stagecoach for operators, and Sonya Sparks from Essex for local government and in addition Tony Brown was elected Chair.

Past Events

Data Standards Webinar Series



We started 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

The slides and recordings for the sessions which have taken place are available on the RTiG website:

1. Introduction & Transmodel

<https://www.rtiq.org.uk/workshops/2025-09-18>

2. NaPTAN & NPTG

30 September

<https://www.rtiq.org.uk/workshops/2025-09-30>

3 SIRI

28 November

<https://www.rtiq.org.uk/workshops/2025-10-28>

4 TransXChange

13 November

<https://rtiq.org.uk/workshops/2025-11-13>

5 NeTEx

27 November

<https://rtiq.org.uk/workshops/2025-11-27>

6 GTFS

9 December

<https://rtiq.org.uk/workshops/2025-12-09>

7 Bus Priority

6 January 2026

<https://rtiq.org.uk/workshops/2026-01-06>

8 Open Journey Planner

22 January 2026

<https://rtig.org.uk/workshops/2026-01-22>

9 OpRa

13 February 2026

<https://rtig.org.uk/workshops/2026-02-13>

10 TransXChange BODS Profile (TxC-PTI)

24 February 2026

<https://rtig.org.uk/workshops/2026-02-24>

11 MQTT

19 March 2026

<https://rtig.org.uk/workshops/2026-03-19>

Managing Disruptions



Tuesday 24 March

We recently held our disruption event in Manchester.

In previous events we have looked at how to manage bus services and provide information to passengers. What happens though when things go wrong and bus services are disrupted?

How do you ensure that buses continue to flow and passengers know what is happening?

At this event we explored how bus operators and authorities are working together to plan for disruptions and how on the day management can mitigate the impact. We will also hear how passengers can be kept informed at all stages of their journey.

Introduction & Background	Tim Rivett, RTiG
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Updates on the Bee Network	Graham Banks & Thomas Carter TfGM
Delays and Disruptions Experienced by the Small Operator	Elizabeth Coates, trentbarton
Disruption Messaging on Behalf of Local Transport Operators	Michael Rocco, EMCCA
Surfacing Unplanned Disruptions	Mark Masterson, ITO World
Capturing and Sharing Disruptions	Discussion
Detours in Transit	Dallas Delaney, Transit

Slides are available from:
<https://rtig.org.uk/workshops/2026-03-24>

The recordings will be available in the coming weeks.

Next Face to Face event

What topics would you like us to cover in our events?

We are planning the event calendar for the year – face to face and webinars and would like to hear from you about what you want us to cover in the events this year?

<https://forms.office.com/e/guvCY83x1Z>

Upcoming Webinars

What topics would you like us to cover in our events?

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Data Standards Webinar Series



We are running a series of webinars, which started 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.

T047 CMS to Display Interface 14 April 2026 12:00

Booking links for the events are available here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/data-standards-series-4511753>

Bus Use Cases for Digital Traffic Regulation Orders

Bus Use Cases for Digital Traffic Regulation Orders

Thursday, April 16, 2026 - 12:00

Traffic regulation orders (TROs) are legal documents that regulate or restrict the use of public roads. They are used to implement traffic management measures, such as speed limits, parking restrictions and one-way streets. TROs are essential for enabling authorities to enforce these regulations and ensure road safety. Up to now they have been paper-based documents restricting their usefulness.

A digital traffic regulation order (D-TRO) is the digital version of a traditional traffic regulation order. The D-TRO service is a centralised repository which has been developed by the Department for Transport to hold digital traffic regulation orders and is now in public Beta.

In this webinar you will find out more about TROs and the D-TRO service and then we will start to explore what real-world bus use cases for DTROs may look like.

We'll explain how you can find out more, and how as a public transport sector we can develop use cases for DTRO for our benefit and how we can work with the DfT to help make them a reality.

Some examples for public transport could be managing bus lanes, temporary diversions, event traffic, and roadworks, and how they could interact with operational systems such as scheduling, real-time information, and journey planning.

Designed for anyone with an interest in the road network and public transport this webinar will focus on the potential for practical use rather than just being all theory.

Book Event

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1986009762662>

Transport Data Action Plan - What it means for Bus**Transport Data
Action Plan****Thursday, April 30, 2026 - 13:00**

The Department for Transport has now published the Transport Data Action Plan — setting out its commitments to improve how transport data is used, shared and understood across the sector.

- So what does this mean in practice for authorities, operators and suppliers?
- What will change around sharing and access?
- What does “better standards and quality” look like?
- And how do we make sure data is used in ways that reflect user needs, including accessibility, as well as good governance and ethics?

RTIG is hosting this webinar to provide a clear overview of the Action Plan and highlight the areas that will matter most for organisations delivering public transport information, operational systems and passenger-facing services.

What we'll cover

- What the Transport Data Action Plan is and why it has been published now
- The five priority themes
- What “good” looks like for implementation — and how to align your current work to the direction set out in the plan
- Q&A: your questions, issues, and priorities

Book Event

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1986057820404>

Managing and Communicating Disruptions in Edinburgh



Thursday, May 21, 2026 – 13:00

When things go wrong, the challenge isn't only restoring or managing service - it's making sure operations teams, customer channels and data feeds all tell the same story, quickly and consistently. RTIG has repeatedly heard the same questions from operators and authorities: how do you keep buses moving, and how do you keep passengers informed at every stage of their journey when disruption hits?

In this webinar we will hear from Lothian buses about how they manage this in Edinburgh.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1986080298637>

Bus Open Data Service - Expression of Interest for Taking Part in User Research - 2026

The Department for Transport is seeking responses to this survey to conduct research into the use of Bus Open Data Service [BODS] as part of the targeted discovery in the period of February - April 2026, as well as to build a research participant list for future research activities.

As part of our user research, we are looking to understand the needs and challenges of various people and businesses, who interact with this service.

We are looking to use various research methods, like surveys, focus groups, or 1-2-1 interviews, that most times will be taking place online.

These research activities are running separately to any other stakeholder engagement sessions.

If you would like to sign up and be added to the list of potential research participants, please provide a little more information about yourself and your availability.

Our Researcher will be in touch, when relevant research activities become available.

Your personal data will be kept securely by Kainos who will be analysing responses on the behalf of DfT and destroyed within 2 years of receiving the data. Any responses to this survey are kept for research purposes only and shared with the team working on BODS, for the purposes of improving the service for everyone.

This survey might take up to 10min of your time.

[BODS User Research Survey](#)

BODS Consumer Group

We are inviting organisations and individuals who consume BODS data to express their interest in joining the new Consumer Steering Group (CSG).

The CSG will provide insight on data usability, accessibility, user experience, and barriers affecting the effective use of BODS data. Meetings will take place bi monthly via MS Teams.

To register your interest, please e-mail BusOpenData@dft.gov.uk with the following information:

- Name and role
- Organisation
- Primary contact email
- Which best describes your organisation?

App Developer, Journey Planner, Real time Data Service or Other (please specify)

- How you currently use BODS data
- Your suggested priority areas for the CSG
- Confirmation you can participate in bi monthly MS Teams meetings
- Any additional comments (optional)

This information will help us create a balanced and representative group aligned with the Terms of Reference.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to get in touch – BusOpenData@dft.gov.uk

Transport Data Action Plan

The graphic features a dark blue background with the text 'Transport Data Action Plan' in white. To the right, there is a collage of digital data visualizations, including bar charts, pie charts, and binary code, overlaid with a large blue arrow pointing right.

Transport Data Action Plan

The Transport Data Action Plan sets out the Department for Transport's commitments to improve how transport data is used, shared and understood across the sector.

It aims to enable:

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- more information for those who use transport
- innovation and improved technology
- efficient transport design and implementation

The plan builds on the 2023 Transport Data Strategy and aligns with wider governmental priorities – using data to unlock digital transformation, innovation, and efficiencies, to further the country's economic growth.

<https://transportdataactionplan.org.uk/>

Join us for our webinar looking at the plan and the implications for bus
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1986057820404>

Rural Bus Conference



Tuesday 9 June 2026
Chester Racecourse

Rural Bus 2026 is supported by the Department for Transport and the Bus Centre of Excellence as they understand how vital bus services are in delivering Government's stated missions.

Both recognise that improving rural mobility is central to delivering UK Government priorities from economic growth and net zero to levelling up, health, and social inclusion.

This unique event will bring together more than 250 local authorities, operators, consultancy and service providers to share best practice across the rural bus sector. A range of keynotes, presentations, interactive panels, case studies and organised networking sessions will help delegates understand how to:

- Make use of the Bus Services Act to support rural buses
- Develop stronger local control to support rural routes
- Embed protection for "socially necessary" services
- Develop robust and timely paths to franchising or Enhanced Partnerships
- Understand what's available in funding and rural investment
- Make the most of lessons learned from the Rural Mobility Fund evaluations
- Create funding formulas that explicitly recognise rural challenges
- Evaluating how Enhanced Partnership or franchising arrangements can create and maintain local services
- Making the most of revised planning frameworks – supporting sustainable travel, including rural buses

Supported delegate places at Rural Bus 2026

As an event partner, the Bus Centre of Excellence (BCoE) is funding a limited number of delegate places at Rural Bus 2026, available to local authorities and third sector organisations.

<https://www.qualityruralbus.uk/>

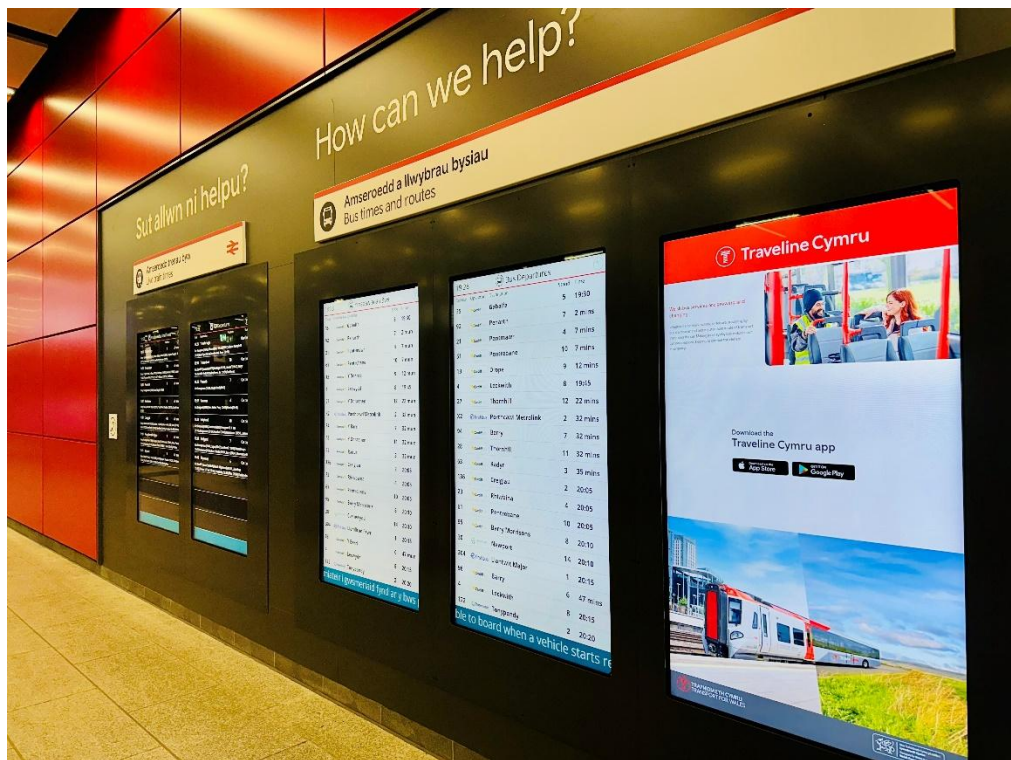
Keeping in touch with you

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 'chivvyng'.



Transport for Wales, Cardiff Interchange

New Ride app celebrates successful launch with more than 12,000 downloads in less than three months

A NEW app which aims to streamline multi-operator public transport journeys across Nottingham and Derby, has reached a key milestone, with 12,600 downloads in under three months.

Ride is an all-in-one public transport app that launched in December 2025 as part of a £4m project developed in collaboration with Nottingham and Derby city councils. It's funded by the government's Future Transport Zones, which provides grants for trialling innovative transport technologies and mobility services. Ride is now operated by the East Midlands Combined County Authority.

Designed to simplify journeys across multiple modes of transport, Ride has quickly become the go-to platform for planning trips and buying bus and tram tickets as well as paying for Lime e-bike and Dott e-scooter journeys.

<https://www.transportnottingham.com/new-ride-app-celebrates-successful-launch-with-more-than-12000-downloads-in-less-than-three-months/>

Nottingham to deploy Alchera AI-powered transport data platform

Nottingham City Council has entered into an agreement with Alchera Technologies to deliver an artificial intelligence-powered (AI-) transport data platform for the region.

Funded by the Department for Transport's Future Transport Zones (FTZ) programme, the city has set out ambitious objectives to reduce carbon emissions and air pollution caused by the city's transport network.

AI-powered data hub

The deployment of Alchera's AI-powered data hub is part of a city-wide initiative to introduce new technologies aimed at improving journey times for both traffic and non-motorised users of the city's roads, building on a prototype previously developed in conjunction with the University of Nottingham.

Alchera's Data Hub will create a single source of truth, ingesting the city's sources of transport data, including fixed sensors, electric vehicle (EV)

charging points, bus and train schedules and air quality sensors. Critically, allowing for fusion of disparate data sources to create a holistic picture of the transport network taking account for all travel modes, while supporting centralised storage of current and historic data to provide trend analysis over time.

'NextBuses - powered by TransportAPI': announcing our new partnership with Traveline

TransportAPI is delighted to announce a new partnership with Traveline for the delivery and development of the NextBuses service. NextBuses has been the key national live bus information source for over a decade, delivering over 100 million requests for real-time information (RTI) annually to bus travellers across Great Britain. TransportAPI and Traveline finalised the agreement today at Transport Ticketing Global 2026.

TransportAPI will bring new value to the NextBuses service as an established provider of bus RTI at national scale. From the opening of the NextBuses - powered by TransportAPI service, there will be live data available in new areas, including Manchester and London. TransportAPI will also fill the gaps in rural areas between RTI schemes with new departure predictions based on Bus Open Data Service (BODS) SIRI-VM bus tracking data. More on this new service soon.

NextBuses

TransportAPI will fund and deliver the new 'NextBuses - powered by TransportAPI' Service going forward while Traveline continue to manage the relationships with local authorities providing data into the NextBuses Service. TransportAPI will provide the connection from the 70 upstream systems run by local transport authorities across Great Britain and will deliver it to developers using the SIRI-SM standard. NextBuses - powered by TransportAPI will run alongside the existing TransportAPI RESTful endpoints with both services offering the same comprehensive national service from all available bus RTI sources.

Discover how your network stacks up with the interactive Mosaic Global Public Transit Index

Whether you're a transport authority, operator or consultant, the GPTI gives you a fast, visual way to understand how your network performs relative to peers.

Interactive, up-to-date comparisons

Unlike static reports, the GPTI allows you to select and compare locations instantly using simple drop-down menus. Once selected, you can:

- Compare networks side-by-side across key performance metrics such as first stop punctuality.
- Track daily updates as the GPTI pulls in open data feeds from transport networks around the world.
- Share your comparisons instantly on social media to spark discussion with peers.

The result? A live benchmarking experience that reflects how networks are currently performing, not how they performed months ago.

<https://www.mosaiq.co/articles/interactive-mosaiq-global-public-transit-index>

Management Committee Members

The Management Board for the year 2026-2027 was appointed at the AGM on 24 March 2026. 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 201 – Friday 1st May 2026

Please send all contributions to secretariat@rtig.org.uk at any time up to Tuesday 28th April 2026.

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