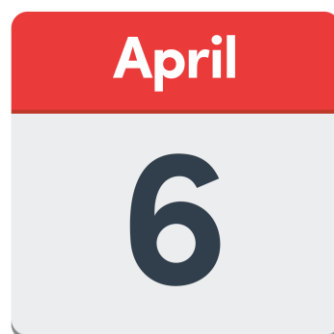


HYS Meeting Minutes



What we talked about on



Hello and welcome



Hello and welcome



Meeting rules



HYS had talked about transport in November 2022 and we wanted to continue this work so key decision makers in Scotland know how we feel about public transport.



We invited Include For Good to HYS to help us to do this.



We also asked the NIN's Aberdeenshire Involvement Network to join us as transport is an important issue for them also.



Include for Good is about changing attitudes and making Scotland a more equal place.

They want to create a world where people with learning disabilities are seen, heard and supported to live their best life.



Include for Good is led by ten Rapporteurs who all have lived experience of living with a learning disability.

They will champion the changes needed by speaking with decision makers, key influencers and leaders in Scotland.

The 8 pillars Include For Good are working on are

- Transport
- Employment
- Health
- Media and Culture
- Education
- Identity
- Access to Justice
- Lifelong support



To find out more about Include For Good click the button .



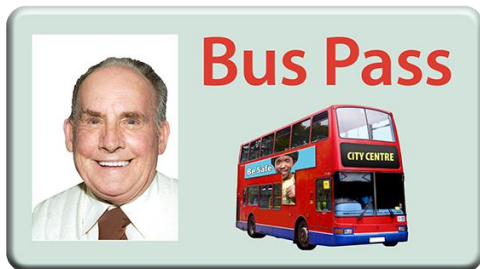
To find out more about the Rapporteurs and the 8 pillars click the button..



Include For Good will be speaking about transport to key decision makers at the Scottish Parliament in May.



Views shared at our meeting will be used to strengthen their transport presentation at The Scottish Parliament.



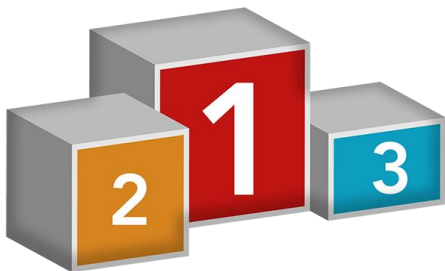
Travel passes

Travel passes are very important. Without them we can not live our lives.

Barriers

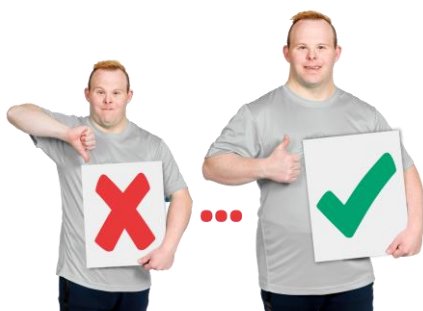
They can be hard to apply for or replace for example:

- Online applications
- Lack of digital education or devices
- Support needed and not always easy to get



Impact

- We loose our independence
- Can't use public transport and live life
- Feelings of frustration, anger and stress.



Changes

- Easier application process.
- Digital support



Always having to plan ahead

Barriers

- Takes time and effort
- Plans you make may not work for example the wheelchair space is already in use or there isn't an accessible taxi.
- Harder when transport staff don't know how to talk to you or support you in the right way

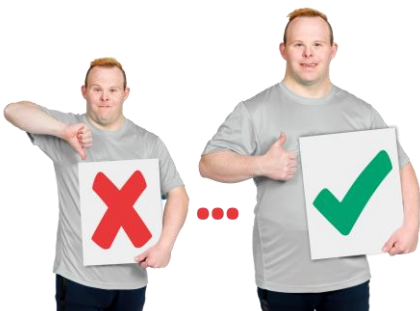


Impact

- Can't be spontaneous
- Can't live our lives like everyone else
- Feelings of frustration, anger and stress.

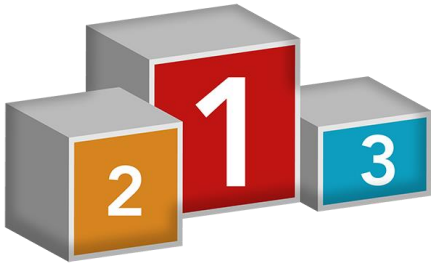
Changes

- Opportunities to advise and train others for example large transport companies.
- Easy read transport information
- Keep working to remove barriers





Better accessibility for those with a visual impairment.



Barriers

- Lack of support to use public transport due to staffing shortage.
- Taxi allowances are not enough.
- Travel pass information hard to see.
- Tram works, cycle lanes and potholes make journeys harder to navigate.

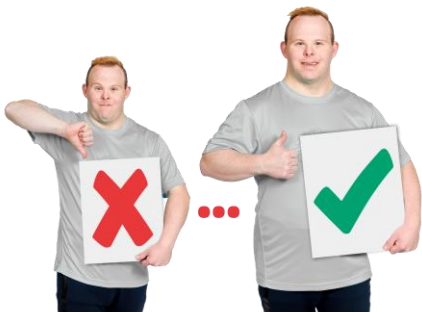


Impact

- Can be hard to get out and about.
- It can feel like you are still on lockdown while others can get out and live their lives.

Changes

- Better taxi allowances and more support.
- Larger print and colour contrasts on bus passes
- Transport passes follow the same layout out so easy to know where to find information for example, renewal dates or logos.
- Better town planning





Better health and safety on public transport

Barriers on buses

- Ramps don't work or are not positioned properly
- Safety clips to secure wheelchairs.
- More wheelchair spaces, so it is not a lottery of whether you get a seat or are left out in the cold hoping the next bus has space.
- More space to move wheelchairs safely
- Not all bus drivers are polite and friendly



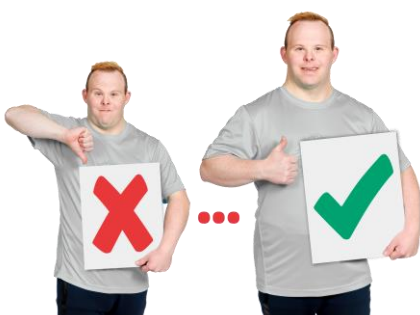
Impact

- Feeling anxious on the bus or stop using it all together.
- Not being able to access cheapest form of public transport can make budgeting hard especially when everything is already costing more.
- Feelings of frustration and stress can impact other areas of your life.



Changes

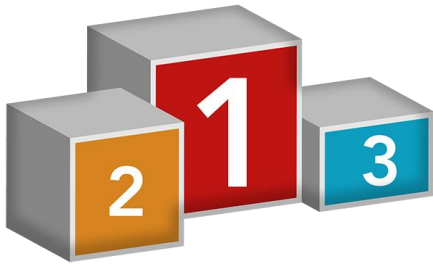
- Better planning and checks on public transport so people feel safe.





Bus drivers and others need to remember we have rights too and need extra support sometimes.

Barriers

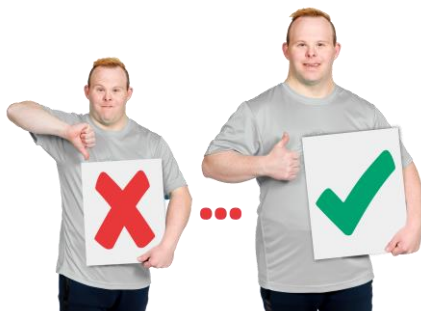


- Bus drivers don't always offer the right support or speak up for you on the bus.
- Other bus passengers don't move out of priority seats or wheelchair spaces when they should.
- It can be hard to find out what your rights are.



Impact

- Don't feel confident about speaking up.
- Less allies to support you and speak up
- Feeling nervous and anxious on public transport.



Changes

- More training to raise awareness of what our rights are and what reasonable adjustments we can ask for.
- More advertising of our rights



Access to a reliable and frequent bus service

Barriers

- Bus's breaking down a lot
- There are not enough bus drivers.
- Bus companies reducing the bus service
- Lack of bus shelters



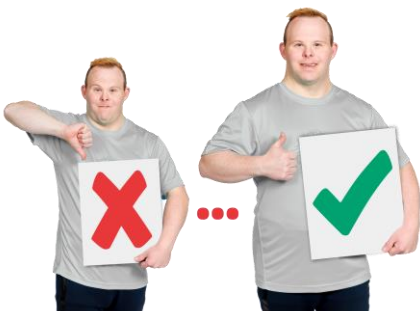
Impact

- Lack of service makes it hard to live your life.
- A lot of support time can be used up on travel
- Can be harder to recruit staff when there is not a good bus service to get them to work.
- Wellbeing and being able to live where you want can be impacted.



Changes

There should be checks to make sure services run well and bus companies should be held to account if this does not happen.





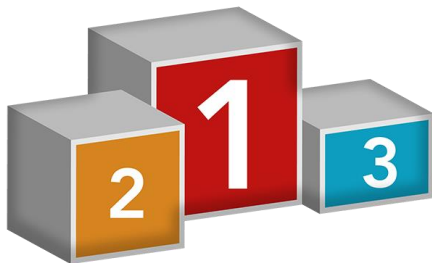
Views from the Aberdeenshire Involvement Network



Accessibility needs to be better in lots of areas

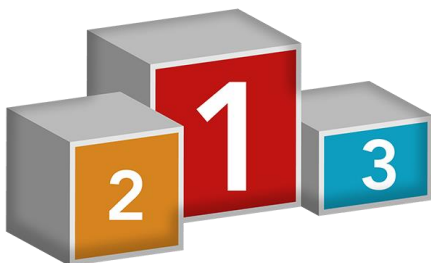
Barriers

- Not all buses are accessible
- Stop buttons are not always easy to reach
- Communication can be hard
- Online booking is hard to do
- Time tables and transport information can be hard to understand



Additional points

- Rural bus services are limited and bus stops are too far away.
- Train tickets are too expensive, especially if you have to buy one for staff too
- Transport hubs need to be cleaner and safer





Views from the Aberdeenshire Involvement Network

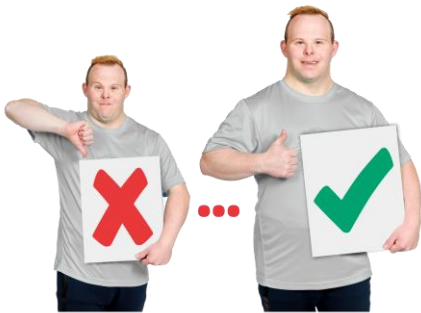


Impact to our lives

- You can feel cut off
- Miss out on opportunities as you can not get there
- Feel less confident about using public transport

Changes we would like to see

- A dedicated transport helpline
- Easy Read website for booking and timetables
- It should be a law for safety reasons that drivers do not drive off until everyone is sitting down.
- People should not be allowed to stand. It should be seats only.
- Not all experiences are bad. We need to learn from the good ones too.





Thank you for sharing your views today it is good to know we have a lot of common goals.

We have also learned new views that we had not thought of.



We can not share individual stories at our meeting at the Scottish Parliament as we only have a small amount of time.



We will be able to use your views to make sure we share the key themes. This will help make our presentation stronger and make our voices louder.



Key decision makers at our meeting in May will include

- Kevin Stewart, Minister for Transport
- Transport Chief Executive for Scotland
- Major transport companies
- COSLA who are involved in giving out public transport contracts



We hope that we can work together again in the future



How did people feel about today's meeting?



- Was great to have people from across Scotland at the meeting and sharing thoughts and views. It was very good.
- It was a really good meeting today.



- It was fantastic, wonderful and eye opening to hear everyone's views today.
- There were things we had not thought about for example how different the experience can be for those living in the city versus a more rural area.



Thank you for coming to the meeting today.