



FOI Request

Bus Regulation, Smart Card Travel & Logo

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Request

Can i request a FOI on the following questions :-

What are the MPTE's current plans for bus re-regulation and if the current bus services bill in wales eventually happens in England, would the PTE consider setting up a direct bus company/arms length bus company like TfL did?

What are the current plans for an oyster card system in Merseyside?

Finally why didn't the MPTE retain their famous "catherine wheel" logo when GMPTE kept the "m blem" and TFL the famous roundel?

Response

Thank you for your recent request made under the Freedom of Information Act. Please find Merseytravel's response to your enquiry below.

What are Merseytravel's current plans for bus re-regulation and if the current bus services bill in Wales eventually happens in England, would the Merseytravel consider setting up a direct bus company/arms length bus company like TfL did?

The latest position on Merseytravel / Liverpool City Region Combined Authority's deliberations upon the use of the Bus Services Act is set out in the Combined Authority papers in respect of its February 2020 meeting (available on our website at [this link](#)). Work to progress the assessment in light of the decisions made at this meeting is ongoing and further updates will be provided to the LCRCA in due course. The Bus Services Act in England does not allow for either re-regulation or the establishment of a municipal bus company and as such this has not been considered by the Combined Authority.

What are the current plans for an oyster card system in Merseyside?

Liverpool City Region have an embedded Smart Card system in operation. Initially launched in 2014, the Walrus smart ticketing scheme was re-branded in December 2019 to Metro Smart. The system saw around 400k transactions each week on the public transport network prior to the Covid-19 outbreak. Our smart portal, Metro Smart, was launched in January 2020 retailing some of our smart tickets and there are plans to further enhance this website and the products available over the next 12 months.

Our Smart ticketing programme also sees development on-going, along with our transport partner operators, to develop a tap and go ticketing system, similar to the one in place in London at the moment. Oyster is an ITSO product that facilitates this, however, so does other smart platforms and the organisation is currently exploring a range of technologies that will improve the ticketing services across the region for our customers. As this is emerging technology we are not able to put a precise date

on this work and it will be dependent upon a range of factors, such as transport operator buy in, available technology, customer demand and funding

Finally why didn't Merseytravel retain their famous "catherine wheel" logo when GMPTe kept the "m blem" and LT the famous roundel?

The former logo was replaced following deregulation and the Transport Act 1985 as the Merseyside Passenger Transport Executive (MPTE) was required to cease operating bus services. This aspect of the MPTE was split into Mersey Transport Limited (Merseybus) and MPTE continued to fulfil its statutory requirements under the operating name Merseytravel in 1986. Given the passage of time, the exact reasoning for the change of logo is no longer held, but we believe that this was done to reflect the new nature of the organisation.

I trust that this information is of interest to you.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review, which should be addressed to:

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If you are not content with the result of your internal review, you also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner, whose address is

The Information Commissioner's Office,
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