

Passenger Charters for Bus Service Improvement Plans

Mike Bartram 7 September 2021



Government requirements in National Bus Strategy

- Commitment in BSIP to publish a charter
- Set out key provisions of charter in BSIP





Transport Focus view

- Charter should set out passenger expectations, operator/LTA commitments and redress
- Concise and crisply worded document
- No need to repeat other documents and website text, such as conditions of carriage

Coverage

- Single Charter for your Partnership
- Date of publication and 'valid until' date





Consistency

- Neighbouring authorities
- Major operator groups
- Avoid 'lowest common denominator'





Passenger entitlements

- What each passenger can expect every time
- Focus on what matters most to passengers
- Cover accessibility of bus services and modal integration
- Try to avoid qualifying your commitments
- Link to BSIP management targets



Bus passenger priorities for improvement (Spring 2019)

- 1. Buses running more often
- 2. Buses going to more places
- 3. More buses on time at the stop
- 4. Better value for money
- More journeys on time
- 6. More effort to tackle any antisocial behaviour
- Faster journey times
- 8. More bus stops with next-bus displays
- 9. Better quality of information at bus stops
- 10. More space for wheelchairs and buggies.



Complaints and redress

- Link directly to expectations
- Explain how to complain
- Forms of redress
- Complaints handling as a service with commitments and targets
- Suggestions
- Analyse complaints data



Publicity and reporting

- Publicise widely
- Accessible formats
- Monitor and report performance against your commitments and targets

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