



Department
for Transport

Lilian Greenwood MP
Chair
Transport Select Committee
House of Commons
London
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From the Parliamentary
Under Secretary of State
Paul Maynard MP

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Dear Lilian,

DRAFT ACCESSIBILITY ACTION PLAN CONSULTATION

I am writing to inform you that today I will be publishing the Government's draft Accessibility Action Plan. At the same time I am launching a public consultation seeking views from interested parties on the draft Plan's content.

The Government is committed to ensuring that people with physical and hidden disabilities have the same access to transport and opportunities to travel as everyone else. This consultation seeks to understand what more needs to be done to improve transport accessibility and is my first major action as Accessibility Minister.

The draft Accessibility Action Plan sets out the Government's proposed strategy to address the gaps in existing provision of transport services which serve as a barrier to people with disabilities. It will be delivered in close partnership with a wide range of public and private sector bodies, as well as the travelling public. The draft strategy includes:

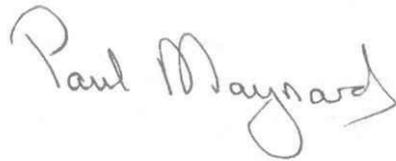
- Advocating for greater consistency in the way transport services and facilities are delivered;
- Ensuring that accessibility features currently required by regulations are consistently monitored and compliance is enforced;
- Reviewing and monitoring access to parking in line with the Government's manifesto commitment to improve disabled access to parking;
- Improving the amount, reliability and available information on passenger facilities, particularly accessible toilets at stations and on trains;

- Highlighting the need for better awareness training for transport staff of the requirements of people with visible and hidden disabilities or impairments, and promoting best practice disability training guidance;
- Identifying and taking steps to address the challenges facing those with physical or mental impairments seeking spontaneous travel.

The scope of the draft Accessibility Action Plan is restricted to those areas for which the Department for Transport has direct responsibility in England and for those transport matters on which powers have been reserved at UK level.

The public consultation will be open for three months from Thursday 24 August and we expect to publish a final Accessibility Action Plan in 2018.

I will be placing a copy of this letter and the draft Accessibility Action Plan in the libraries of both Houses.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Maynard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a long, sweeping underline.

PAUL MAYNARD