

EBSR NEWSLETTER – Issue no. 6

EBSR TRAINING RESOURCES

1 Background

With the increasing take-up of EBSR there are now 52 operators (O licences) that have made the transition to EBSR or are in the course of making that transition, as well as 94 local authorities handling registrations submitted as EBSRs.

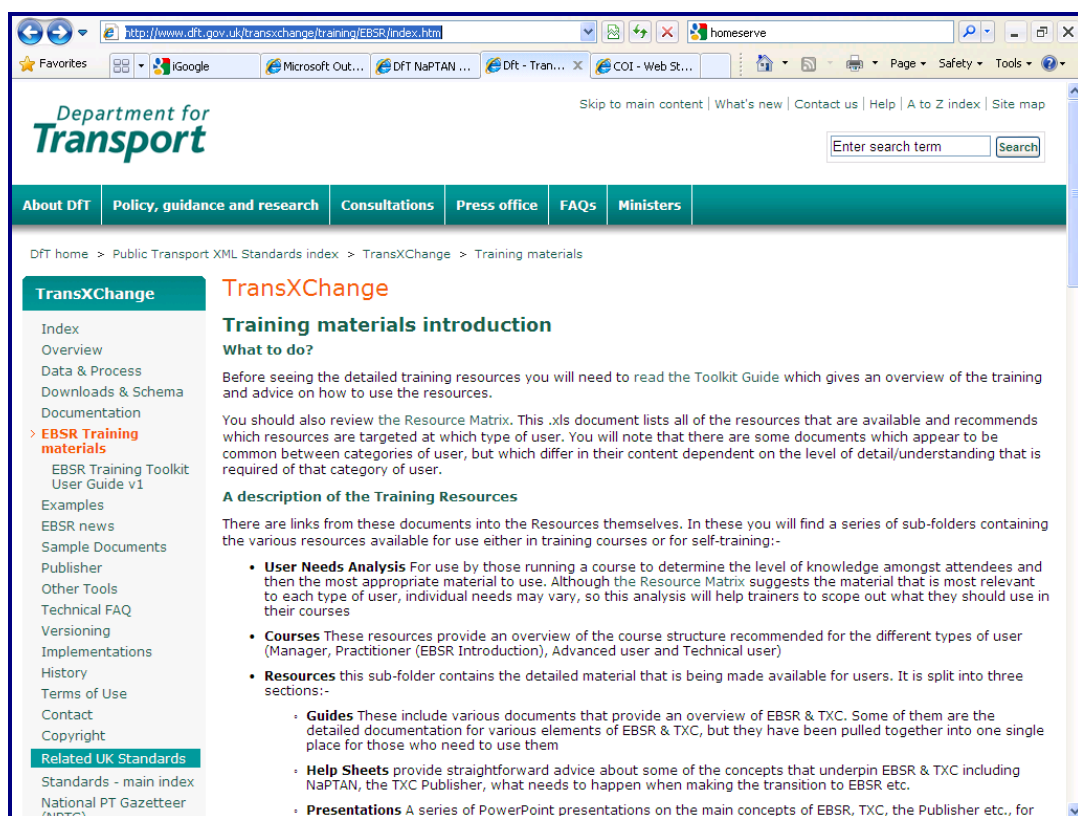
Most of these authorities do not see a large number of EBSRs, though some see quite a number, while there is still a significant proportion of authorities that have yet to see an EBSR. There is obviously a large number of Operators that are not yet exploring EBSR. Consequently, for many people the handling and processing of EBSRs remains a mystery.

Transport Direct has now assembled and is making available a set of training resources to help explain EBSR and some of the underlying support mechanisms such as TransXChange, the EBSR Publisher, NaPTAN, NPTG etc.

2 The Training Resources

These resources have now been made generally available and can be found at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/transxchange/training/EBSR/index.htm> (Figure 1)

Figure 1 – EBSR Training Home Page

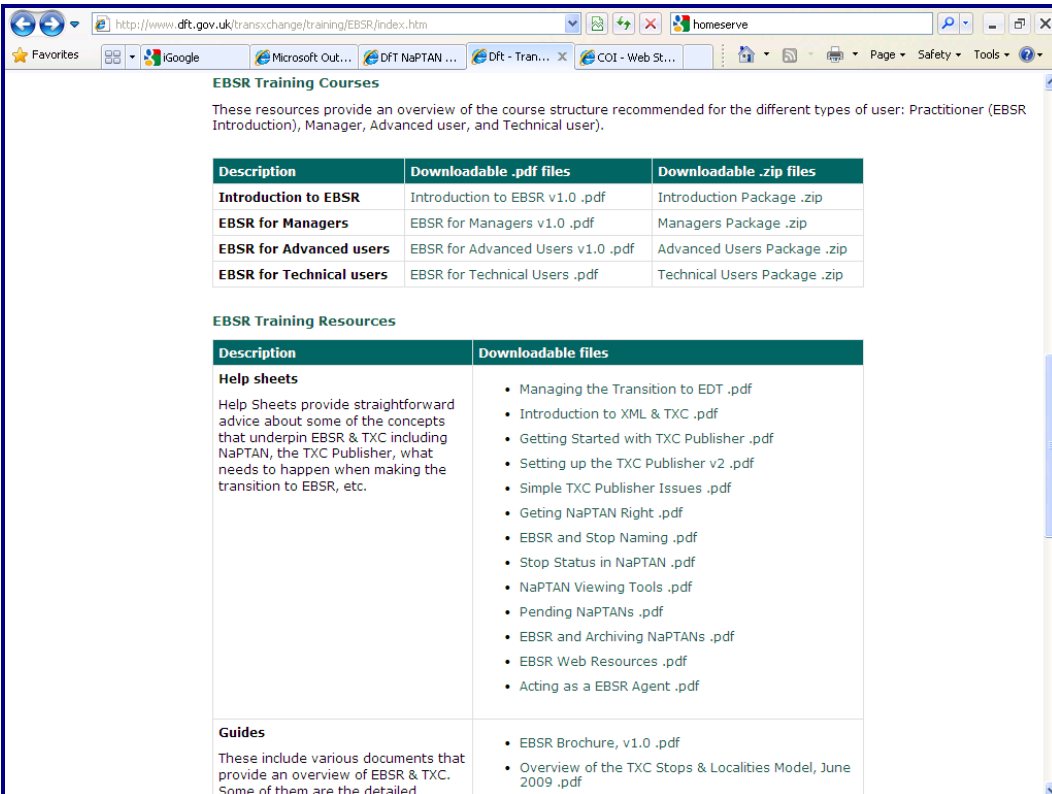


There is a large amount of material available which is structured around the needs of particular individuals with an interest in EBSR. There is a general introduction to EBSR plus three structured courses targeted at:-

- Managers – to explain the background to EBSR and the possible implications for the staff that they manage and the systems that are used to manage public transport data
- Advanced Users – which explains the concepts in more detail and how to use all of the features of tools such as the EBSR Publisher to fully understand the contents of an EBSR submission
- Technical Users – which goes into more detail about the underlying technical issues such as XML and TransXChange and provides links to downloads of the TransXChange Schema.

The materials are structured so that they can be downloaded as packages aimed at those target groups and used to provide the basis of a training course, perhaps one used by a traveline region and delivered to a group from that region. These courses could also be used for self-training.

Figure 2 – Training Resources



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'EBSR Training Courses' page. The page includes a table with three columns: 'Description', 'Downloadable .pdf files', and 'Downloadable .zip files'. The table lists resources for Introduction to EBSR, EBSR for Managers, EBSR for Advanced users, and EBSR for Technical users. Below this, there is a section for 'EBSR Training Resources' with two sub-tables: 'Help sheets' and 'Guides', each listing specific downloadable files.

Description	Downloadable .pdf files	Downloadable .zip files
Introduction to EBSR	Introduction to EBSR v1.0 .pdf	Introduction Package .zip
EBSR for Managers	EBSR for Managers v1.0 .pdf	Managers Package .zip
EBSR for Advanced users	EBSR for Advanced Users v1.0 .pdf	Advanced Users Package .zip
EBSR for Technical users	EBSR for Technical Users .pdf	Technical Users Package .zip

Description	Downloadable files
Help sheets Help Sheets provide straightforward advice about some of the concepts that underpin EBSR & TxC including NaPTAN, the TxC Publisher, what needs to happen when making the transition to EBSR, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing the Transition to EDT .pdf Introduction to XML & TxC .pdf Getting Started with TxC Publisher .pdf Setting up the TxC Publisher v2 .pdf Simple TxC Publisher Issues .pdf Getting NaPTAN Right .pdf EBSR and Stop Naming .pdf Stop Status in NaPTAN .pdf NaPTAN Viewing Tools .pdf Pending NaPTANs .pdf EBSR and Archiving NaPTANs .pdf EBSR Web Resources .pdf Acting as a EBSR Agent .pdf
Guides These include various documents that provide an overview of EBSR & TxC. Some of them are the detailed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EBSR Brochure, v1.0 .pdf Overview of the TxC Stops & Localities Model, June 2009 .pdf

In addition all of the course materials are also provided in the form of a number of **Help Sheets, Guides and Presentations** (Figure 2) which provide more detailed information on specific topics related to EBSR.

For example there is a Help Sheet that explains how to install the Publisher on your PC, and another one that explains how to deal with common Publisher problems. There is also a more detailed presentation that explains what the advanced functions of the Publisher allow you to do in order to manipulate the Publisher output to make it more legible and how these should be used.

3 Other Materials

In addition to these training materials, operators have also agreed to provide examples of actual EBSRs which can be downloaded and/or put through the Publisher to understand their content in more detail. These examples are available at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/transxchange/realexamples/index.htm> and contain sample files that illustrate some of the complexities of service registrations that EBSR has been able to handle (cancellations, clover-leaves, circular services, limited stop services etc.). This material can be used in conjunction with the training resources to help illustrate some of the complexities of EBSR.

4 How Do I Get Further Help and Advice?

If you would like further help with the training resources, or need more information about the material that has been provided, or would like to suggest other topics that might be included in these guides, we would be pleased to hear from you.

You can contact us by sending an email to Transport Direct at ebsr@dft.gsi.gov.uk and we will do our best to help.

*Kieran Holmes
December 2009*