

EBSR NEWSLETTER – Issue no. 6

STANDARDISATION OF WEBSITES

1 Background

A number of changes have recently been made to the websites that are used by those of us involved with transport information. In many cases URLs have changed and the “look and feel” of the websites has changed as well.

These changes have been prompted by a requirement to standardise government websites that has been made centrally by the Central Office of Information and which is explained more fully here <http://www.coi.gov.uk/guidance.php?page=188>.

In addition to this standardisation, there has also been a requirement to ensure that all government websites are fully accessible, and in some cases you will find that this has resulted in changes to the layout of some of the websites that we all use.

2 Impact on NaPTAN, EBSR and TransXChange

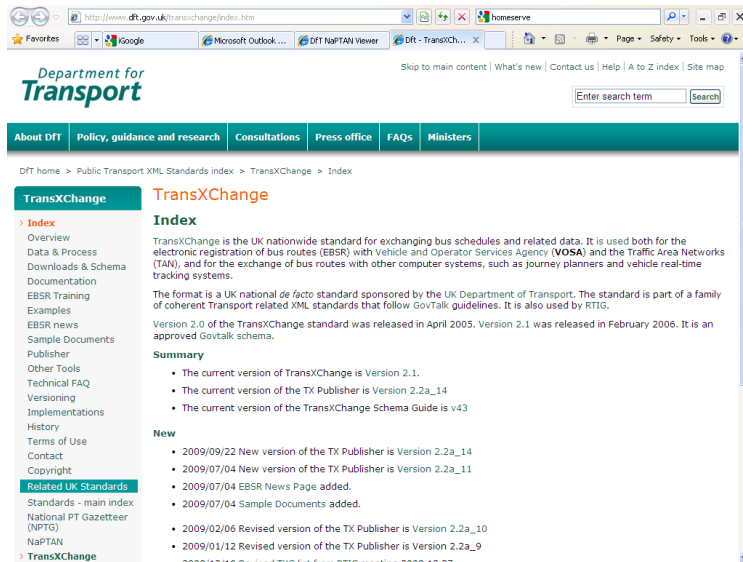
The URLs for the various websites that are used in NaPTAN, EBSR etc. have all been changed. For example, information about TransXChange that used to be available at www.transxchange.org.uk is now found at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/transxchange/index.htm>. The JourneyWeb web site used for managing NaPTAN/NPTG data that was at www.journeyweb.org.uk now has the URL of <http://www.dft.gov.uk/public-transportdatamanagement/>.

When the new sites were created and the new URLs set up, redirections were included in the system to ensure that anybody using the old URLs was re-directed to the new site. However, if you have saved the old URL as one of your Internet Favourites, it would be prudent to replace the old URL with the new one to ensure that you always get to the right page.

There are some instances in which the re-direction will cause problems, particularly for automated systems and you may have seen advice on the JourneyWeb site warning of this. The URLs for the NaPTAN Download Facility, NaPTAN Upload facility and Last Submissions pages have been moved. The links on the JourneyWeb website have been updated, but if you go directly to the old URL, for example via a saved favourites link, it may go to the old address and will not work. These links therefore do need to be updated. If you have any problems with this, Thales, who maintain the JourneyWeb site for Transport Direct, will be able to help. Contact them at journeyweb.help@thalesgroup.com

3 A Consistent Style

All of the websites for NaPTAN etc. now appear in the style used for all Department for Transport websites.



This website for TransXChange is an example of the new style of page. It conforms to the standard used throughout the Department for Transport's website.

Currently the only exception to this is the JourneyWeb site where work is underway to convert this site to the new style. This work is scheduled for completion early in 2010.

4 How Do I Get Further Information?

For further information, please email Transport Direct at ebstr@dft.gsi.gov.uk.

Kieran Holmes
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