

HM Government of Gibraltar



6 CONVENT PLACE

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Gibraltar On the Move – A New Sustainable Transport Blueprint

HM Government of Gibraltar is proceeding with its manifesto commitment to deliver a comprehensive Sustainable Traffic, Transport and Parking Plan for Gibraltar. The objective of the Plan is to improve the quality of life for transport and non-transport users, to promote a healthy natural environment, to meet our obligations under EU Directives in terms of air pollution, noise and energy for transport, to encourage the use of environmentally friendly modes of transport and to increase the fluidity of traffic. The first draft of the Plan is expected in late 2013 but during its development there will be extensive consultation with key stakeholders and the public.

Like many other urban areas, Gibraltar suffers from traffic congestion which can have adverse effects on its economy, environment and image. In addition, the daily frontier movements, regular cruise ship influx of visitors and severely limited space exacerbate the problems. For Gibraltar to address these problems and grow in a sustainable manner, it is imperative that we thoroughly understand how people currently travel and what alternative transport modes or routes they might consider using in the future.

The first stage in this process is to survey how the transport system currently operates - from the school trip to shop deliveries and tourist tour to refuse collection. This must cover all transport modes: walk, cycle, motorbike, car, lorries, bus, taxi - and all types of user: resident, worker, visitor - as well as identifying obstacles to travel: mobility impairment, safety concerns or cost.

HM Government of Gibraltar is about to conduct a range of surveys designed to provide a comprehensive view of the daily travel habits of those travelling to and through Gibraltar and to enable users to give their views on current issues and potential improvements. Information will be gathered by:

- Household Interviews to obtain movements from main residential areas;
- Roadside interviews at various locations;
- Interviews at main public and private car parks;
- Interviews on board bus services to get a better understanding of trips by public transport;
- Cruise ship surveys of passengers visiting Gibraltar
- Taxi surveys to understand where trips are made in Gibraltar by this mode

In addition to the above, a series of online questionnaires will be made available to obtain wider views on transport issues. We shall be asking the general public to complete these, as well as staff and pupils at schools and also staff at workplaces. Given that a significant proportion of trips during the morning and evening peak periods are for journeys to work and school, we are keen to obtain views and opinions from those people making these trips.

The overall survey programme will be conducted over an 8-10 week period starting on Monday 15 April 2013. These surveys are scheduled to avoid holiday periods when travel patterns alter from normal conditions, for example , during school holidays.

It is important that the local community is actively involved in the development of the Sustainable Traffic, Transport and Parking Plan, especially the surveys, by sharing their views on travel patterns and behaviour with our survey team. By responding accurately to the surveys and questionnaires, we will be able to gain a detailed picture of people's travel behaviour which can then be used to effectively assess current issues, to identify future problems and to develop a transport strategy to support the future growth of Gibraltar in a sustainable manner.

