

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order makes provision for a National Bus Travel Concession Scheme for Older and Disabled Persons (“the Scheme”) to come into force on 1st April 2006. This Order is made under section 40 of the [Transport \(Scotland\) Act 2005 \(asp 12\)](#) which allows the Scottish Ministers to make national travel concession schemes.

Article 3 makes the Scheme for the provision of travel concessions to eligible persons travelling on eligible services on eligible journeys.

Article 4 provides that the Scheme is to operate throughout Scotland and that the Scottish Ministers shall administer the Scheme.

Article 5 provides for the rate of travel concession in the Scheme to be a waiver of the normal adult fare.

Article 6 outlines the conditions for operators to whom the Scheme applies.

Article 7 details which operators the Scottish Ministers may admit to the Scheme.

Article 8 provides for matters relating to admission to the Scheme. Where the Scottish Ministers refuse to admit an operator to the Scheme then the operator may appeal against that decision.

Article 9 provides that an operator may seek to withdraw from the Scheme provided 56 days written notice is given to the Scottish Ministers. On receiving such a notice the Scottish Ministers may serve the operator with a compulsory participation notice, requiring the operator to participate in the Scheme. An operator may appeal against a compulsory participation notice on cause shown.

Article 10 provides that the Scottish Ministers may exclude an operator of an eligible service from the Scheme in relation to any eligible service. The operator concerned may appeal against the decision to exclude them from the Scheme.

Article 11 details the information that operators must provide to the Scottish Ministers in terms of the Scheme.

Article 12 makes provision as to the reimbursement of operators participating in the Scheme and the basis of reimbursement calculations.

Article 13 details how reimbursement will be paid to operators.

Article 14 provides that information as to the adult single fare used in reimbursement claims shall be verified by compliance audits and surveys and by means of any other verification activity agreed between the operator and the Scottish Ministers.

Article 15 makes provision as to travel cards for the purposes of the Scheme.