POLICY NOTE

THE NATIONAL SMART TICKETING ADVISORY BOARD (PUBLIC SERVICES REFORM) (SCOTLAND) ORDER 2024

SSI 2024/129

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 15(2)(a) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 ("the 2010 Act"). The instrument is subject to affirmative procedure.

Summary Box

This instrument inserts the National Smart Ticketing Advisory Board ("the Board") into the list of bodies in schedule 5 of the 2010 Act. This allows the Scottish Ministers, by order, to make any provision which they consider would improve the exercise of the Board's functions, having regard to efficiency, effectiveness and economy.

Policy Objectives

The Board was established by the National Smart Ticketing Advisory Board (Scotland) Regulations 2023, in fulfilment of a requirement imposed on the Scottish Ministers by section 43 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 to establish an advisory committee to be known as the National Smart Ticketing Advisory Board. The function of the Board is to advise the Scottish Ministers in relation to their functions insofar as they relate to smart ticketing arrangements, and the national technological standard for smart ticketing. The Board also has the function of issuing advice and recommendations to the Scottish Ministers in relation to the strategic development of smart ticketing in Scotland. All members will be appointed for a period by the Scottish Ministers.

Under the 2010 Act, the Scottish Ministers may make any provision which they consider would improve the exercise of public functions by the bodies listed in schedule 5 of the Act, having regard to efficiency, effectiveness and economy. Due to the nature of the Board and its functions, the Scottish Ministers consider it appropriate to add the Board to the list in schedule 5 of the 2010 Act.

EU Alignment Consideration

This instrument is not relevant to the Scottish Government's policy to maintain alignment with the EU.

Consultation

In accordance with section 25(4) of the 2010 Act, the Board has been consulted in relation to the proposal to make this Order. The consultation took place at the first meeting of the Board on 28th November 2023, in person, with all members and the chairperson of the Board in attendance.

As a result of that consultation, the Board confirmed it was content with the proposal, and no other representations were received. No changes to the proposal were therefore necessary.

This is recorded within the minutes published for the meeting of the Board, held on 28th November 2023, and available via the following link: https://www.transport.gov.scot/public-transport/smart-and-integrated-ticketing/national-smart-ticketing-advisory-board/.

Impact Assessments

No impact assessments have been completed for this Order. This Order confers powers on the Scottish Ministers to make certain provision in relation to the exercise of the Board's functions, and it does not have any impacts with regards to finance, equality, child rights, island communities, inequalities, or the environment.

Financial Effects

The Minister for Transport confirms that no Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment is necessary as the instrument has no financial effects on the Scottish Government, local government or on business.

Scottish Government
Bus, Accessibility and Active Travel Directorate

February 2024