

AUNT-SUE

Accessibility and
User Needs in
Transport for
Sustainable Urban
Environments



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Newsletter Edition December 2006, Issue 2

You are reading the AUNT-SUE newsletter. It contains updates on how our research project develops as it tests sustainable policies and practice that will deliver effective socially inclusive design and operation in transport and the associated public realm.

AUNT-SUE Winter & Spring 2006/7 ...

Annual Symposium: Planning & Designing an Inclusive Journey Environment



Please join us for the annual AUNT-SUE symposium on 21st March 2007. We welcome your contribution to the discussion of the research findings and your participation in a hands-on demonstration of the tools that have been developed in 2006/7.

Date: 21st March 2007

Time: 9.30 am to 4.00 pm

Location: London Met University, Graduate Centre, GC1-08.

Key speakers include Professor Mark Porter (Loughborough University), Professor Graeme Evans, Professor Roger Mackett (UCL), Professor Nick Tyler (UCL), Trevor Mason (Hertfordshire), Andy Kemp (Camden), Anna Hamilos (CABE) and Louise Duggan (CABE Space) and Steve Shaw (London Met).

The rapporteur is Colin Mann (Head of TfL Borough Programmes).

For more information on this event or to reserve your place, please visit www.aunt-sue.info.

You can also contact Antje Witting on 020 7133 3028 or email a.witting@londonmet.ac.uk.

The event is free, but places are limited, so please book early.

Session I: Inclusive Design and Operation

Time: 10.20 am to 11.50 am

Session II: Incorporating Social Inclusion Policy

Time: 12.10 am to 1.15 pm

Session III: Principles into Practice/ Demonstrations

Time: 2 pm to 4 pm

AUNT-SUE at Interchange 07 conference

Graeme Evans (London Met) will present "Accessible Transport & Inclusive Design" at the Interchanges 07 conference on 17th January 2007. Steve Shaw (London Met) will be a member of the afternoon panel. Several other key speakers include Roger Madelin of Argent and Ian Lindsay, Head of Commercial Development, Network Rail. The conference aims to explore successful development and regeneration of UK transport interchanges. The conference is organised by the British Urban Regeneration Association (BURA).

Further details on www.aunt-sue.info

New web address: www.aunt-sue.info

Please be aware that our website has moved from www.aunt-sue.org.uk to www.aunt-sue.info. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

AUNT-SUE in Summer & Autumn 2006 ...



GIS Chart: Natural Surveillance Somerstown

Testbed reports

Research work in AUNT-SUE testbed areas in L.B. Camden and Hertfordshire C.C. is ongoing. First results are being finalized.

AUNT-SUE street level data, generated in street audit and validated with local residents' survey responses, was discussed with representatives from DISC and Camden Council. Solutions to the accessibility barriers were highlighted during a walkabout. Results were included in decision process on how to spend £40k that Camden Council had allocated for improvements in Somerstown.

Please contact **Nick Tyler** or **Rana Imam** (UCL) r.imam@ucl.ac.uk for further details.

AUNT-SUE built environment data for Somerstown and Elms Village as well as social and crime data was mapped using GIS and first findings concluded (see image). Residents' consultation meetings are being set up for both Camden areas for winter 06/07. Data collection on St Albans area in Hertfordshire is being finalized. Data is being mapped onto GIS. Consultation meetings are planned for spring 07.

Please contact **Nastaran Azmin-Fouladi** (London Met) n.azmin-fouladi@londonmet.ac.uk for further details.

Research paper: Benchmarking Transport Social Exclusion

One of the principal rationales for accessibility planning in the UK is the reduction of transport-related social exclusion. This paper is concerned with an examination of the relevance of the indicators suggested by the UK's Department for Transport in their Guidance on Accessibility in Local Transport Plans. (DfT 2004). The paper starts with an in-depth analysis of the journey characteristics of those groups considered socially excluded by the Social Exclusion Unit (SEU 2003) and then considers the extent to which the indicators reflect the types and characteristics of journeys likely to be important to these groups.

The analysis which we have undertaken suggests that there is a somewhat limited scope for the indicators proposed by the DfT to assist in the reduction of transport-related social exclusion. A couple of examples illustrate. The first is the case of part-time workers, many of them low-income, whose work journeys are much shorter than those of full-time workers and to whom the work travel time indicators do not therefore apply. A second example of the limited scope is the prevalence of social and leisure journeys for all socially excluded groups, for which no indicators are suggested. We would venture to suggest that at the very least, considerable refinement, and possibly a completely new approach, will be needed for the meaningful evaluation of reductions in transport social exclusion.

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A pilot focus group with elderly and disabled participants was conducted in July 2007 in Rotherham in Yorkshire C.C.. Further focus group meetings are being set up for AUNT-SUE testbed areas in L.B. Camden and Hertfordshire C.C. The first stage of data collection involves the elderly and disabled.

Please contact **Juliet Solomon** (London Met) or **Kamal. Achuthan** (UCL) k.achuthan@ucl.ac.uk for

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