

## Amendment of Tyne and Wear Metro Byelaws to prohibit Vaping on the Metro Equality Assessment.

Objectives. Nexus proposes to amend the Tyne and Wear Metro Byelaws to prohibit vaping on the Metro. This assessment is to consider diversity and protected characteristics of the proposed changes to the they byelaws.

Nexus is mindful of protected characteristics and impact of the changes to each characteristic.

Age

Disability X

Gender reassignment

Marriage and Civil partnership

Race

Religion

Sex

Sexual Orientation.

The effect of prohibition on vaping on each of above characteristics has been considered.

Vaping is already contrary to the conditions of carriage. Overhead signage and announcements convey this to customers on the system. Nexus takes the view that vaping is an activity that is non-specific to any group of people.

Of the above characteristics, I have considered the effect of the change on people with disability and in particular people who might use vaping to manage their mental health issues or stressful situations. Vaping will only be prohibited where

appropriate signage is in place. Many of the stations are open and customers could vape outside areas where signage is in place. In any event trains run very frequently and journeys are short so customers with such disabilities would have a short time without vaping.

Nexus is sympathetic to customers who have mental health difficulties and would assess each breach of byelaw on an individual basis, taking into account input from health professionals and care workers when submitted.