

Transferable A-V Equipment on Rail Replacement Coaches

Grant Scheme Fact Sheet

What is the scheme?

- A time-limited grant scheme to help coach operators purchase transferable audio-visual (AV) equipment for rail replacement services.
- Its aim is to increase the number of services able to provide audible and visible journey information in line with the Public Service Vehicles (Accessible Information) Regulations 2023 (AIR)¹.

Who can apply?

- Coach operators
- Operators with previous rail replacement activity can access modestly higher support; Providers with no history of rail replacement can still apply under tiered funding rules

What funding is available?

- 75% of equipment costs to equip up to 5 coaches capped at £2,000 (ex VAT) per vehicle you are equipping
- Tiered funding for equipping additional coaches (see attached flow chart).

What equipment is fundable?

- Equipment must enable a vehicle to comply with AIR, **and** it must be easily transferrable between vehicles.
- This can include both equipment for generating AIR compliant announcements, and peripherals (such as screens or induction loops) provide they are transferrable, and you are using them with equipment that provides AIR compliant journey information.

What information will be needed?

- Equipment details
- Proof of purchase (Quotes are not eligible)
- Basic evidence of eligibility (E.g. operator license and registered business details)
- Supporting information (e.g. how equipment will be used)

Scheme timing

- The scheme will be open to applications at the end of June, and will remain open for 6 months, or until the funding is depleted.
- Funding will be paid out on a rolling basis, and applications will be assessed as they come in.
- We reserve the right to prioritise applications should the context shift, for example if there are regional imbalances, we may prioritise applications from under-represented regions to ensure good geographic spread.

¹ Public Service Vehicle Accessible Information Regulations (AIR):
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2023/9780348246872/contents>

Likely Funding Levels?

Note: all reimbursements are capped at £2,000 (ex VAT) for each vehicle being equipped.

