

Accessibility: the strategic context

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The presentation looks at three different levels of accessibility research and planning - at micro, meso and macro levels - and considers how policies at these three levels can be combined to provide a seamless door-to-door transport experience. While suitable provision for physical mobility is crucial, this is often a necessary but not a sufficient condition for movement - other factors, such as cost and timing constraints may also constrain movement.

It identifies situations where this goal is not achieved, due to a lack of co-ordination between different policy delivery agencies, using examples from a semi-rural study in South Yorkshire. Problems also arise due to gaps in empirical data, which mask problems experienced by wheelchair users and others.

Finally, the presentation will summarise findings from some exploratory research which looked at how information on footway condition might be collected and displayed in a relevant manner for people with different kinds of disability, to enable them to find suitable routes through the local street network.