

John Atkins Principal Consultant

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Qualifications: B.A. (Hons) English (Manchester Polytechnic 1983)

CPC National Passenger Transport (OCR 1999)

Post Graduate Certificate in Business Executive Coaching (UCLAN 2008)

Access Auditing – Essential Skills (CAE 2005)

Since joining TAS in May 2006, John has made a key contribution to the following projects:

Local Authority Reviews and Strategy Development of Community & Accessible Transport John has led the bulk of TAS' recent work in this field, with extensive CT audit and strategy development involvement, and focus on quality standards, best value and service configuration. Reviews have been undertaken for the following local authorities: East Dorset (Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch & Dorset Councils) (2006-07), Ealing (2007), Cheshire (2007), Northumberland (2007-08 & 2015-17 Total Transport project), Hampshire (2008-10), Halton (2008-09), Middlesbrough (2009), Central Bedfordshire (2010-11), Highland Council (2011 & 2013), Milton Keynes (2011-12), Falkirk (2011-14), Lancashire (2011 & 2013), Wrexham (2012-13), North East Lincolnshire (2014-15), Luton (2014-15), TfGM (2015), Stoke-On-Trent (2015), Dorset (2016), Conwy (2016-17), Cambridgeshire (2018) and Stockport (2019). Also Taxi Unmet Demand Study in Stirling (2015-16) and review of taxi provision in North East Lincolnshire / North Lincolnshire Total Transport project (2016-17).

# Regional Community & Rural Demand Responsive Transport Reviews

Strategic area reviews, service evaluation and strategy development has been undertaken in Northern Ireland (Department of Rural Development) (2006), Yorkshire (Sheffield, Doncaster, Barnsley & Rotherham CTs (2006), South Wales (South East Wales Transport Authority) (2007), Mid Wales (Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations) (2008), North Wales (Taith) (2013), Bwcabus (South West Wales) (2013-15), Yorkshire Dales Integrated Transport Alliance (2013-15), Bridport Town Council (2017) and Neath Port Talbot CVS (2018).

# Support and Development of CT Operators

Direct organisational development support, assistance with tender bids, governance and social enterprise options has been provided by John for Stirling Dial-a-Journey (2006), East Durham CT (2006), WATBUS (2006), Oldham CT (2007), Transport in North Northumberland / NEED (2007-08, 2019), Stratford CT (2008), Cotswold CVS (2009), Crewe & Nantwich Dial-a-Ride (2009-11), Swindon Dial-a-Ride (2010), Ealing CT (2010 / 2019), Bournemouth CVS (2011), Greater Manchester Accessible Transport (2012-13), Wrexham Chariotts (2012-13), Nottingham CT (2013-18), CT Brighton & Hove (2015-17) and Hoo Peninsula (Medway) (2018), & Lancashire Community Transport Consortium (2019).

# Social Value and Impact Studies

Social evaluation of CT services has been undertaken for East Riding Council (2008), HiTrans (2011) Community Transport Solihull (2012), Bwcabus (2013-15) and seven CT projects in Surrey / W&E Sussex / Brighton & Hove (2017). Valuation of Tamar Valley Railway in Devon / Cornwall (2018). Measuring Social Impact of CT study for Community Transport Association - Wales (2019).

#### Accessibility Initiatives & Department for Transport

Lead UK partner in the development of I SEMOA (2010-13), an EU accessibility auditing system, accessible vehicle advice for Car Plus (Aberdeen) (2013), Dunbar Sparewheels (2014) and reviewed assistive technology for visually impaired passengers for Nexus (North East England) (2014). A survey of Mobility Services Provision (2008), including interviews and case studies of practice in the UK and Europe. Additional work for DfT involved a review of the Blue Badge scheme (2009-10 involved in 2014 DfT workshop around barriers to CT development.

#### Primary Care Trusts / Non-Emergency Patient Transport Services

Completed an extensive transport review for Northumbria NHS Health Care Trust (2018-19).

Prior to joining TAS: Manager of Preston Community Transport Ltd (1988-2006), developed Group Travel, Dial-A-Bus, Car Schemes, an integrated Mobility Centre with Shopmobility services, mobile Shopmobility, and demand-responsive rural bus services under full PSV operations. During 2003-2006, John was also employed by Lancaster District Council for Voluntary Service as Manager of the Volunteer Centre, gaining wide experience of volunteering matters, organisational capacity building and voluntary sector issues in general.