

- **Fares go up every year**
 - **Working conditions deteriorate**
- **Safety is compromised**
- **Shareholders get richer**



Transport workers and passengers unite for a better transport system: free, safe, convenient for all

Transport doesn't have to cost the earth

Transport is a basic necessity of life; we have to use it to get to work, go shopping, visit friends and family, and access recreational and leisure activities. This is true no matter where you live: in cities, smaller towns, and in the countryside.

However, there are many problems with the current transport system so that the car continues to be the only option. Public transport in the cities is crowded and often expensive. Fares go up year after year. With the increase in house prices and rents, people have to move further and further away from their place of work, paying a large proportion of their income on just getting to work. In the rural areas and smaller towns, transport is expensive, infrequent and inconvenient. And, everywhere there is a serious lack of public transport for disabled people.

Public transport not cars

Cars cause noise and air pollution and are one of the causes of climate change. Electric cars are proposed as a solution, but this does not solve the problems of congestion, space and safety. Cars demand roads and parking, to the detriment of having space for children (and adults!) to play. And, electric cars are not a solution to climate change in any case. They would need large amounts of rare earth minerals for the batteries and electricity would still have to be generated.



Government policy favours the car and is unduly influenced by the roads lobby. There needs to be a major change in policy. There is no point in making people feel guilty for using a car. The alternative of public transport needs to be made convenient, efficient, comfortable, and **free**.

Why free public transport?

Public transport should be free because it is a public good. It is something that everyone has to use, like the health service. And, if any form of car has major disadvantages for people and the planet, then public transport is the answer and needs to be supported with funds, not from our pockets but from the

pockets of the companies and corporations who need us to get to work and whose activities are behind climate change.

This is not an idealistic or impossible demand. In many places, such as Luxembourg (from March 2020) and Estonia (2018), public transport is free.



Transport workers and passengers: one struggle

Too often passengers have been brainwashed into blaming the workers for the poor service. And, understandably with the massive increase in assaults on transport staff, workers may see passengers as a problem. There needs to be a common front. Better pay and conditions for transport workers and more staff on trains, buses and in stations means a better service. The real cause of the problems is the nature of the transport system, with profits and the interests of shareholders coming before the needs of passengers and workers. And, expanding the transport system to accommodate the increase in passengers will provide jobs in manufacturing, with the production of green transport, such as electric buses.



Support the movement

- Make your pay packet go further with free transport
- More frequent service in rural areas
- No more crowded trains
- Better conditions for workers: no more assaults, keep guards on trains, safety for all
- Less pollution and safer streets
- Fight climate change



Drivers let passengers ride for free in Sydney



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