



2023 Bus Safety Innovation Challenge Response Guide

1 Overview

Transport for London (TfL) is committed to working with London Bus Operators to help reduce bus occupant injuries resulting from slips, trips, and falls. In the last year there were over 240 casualties involving buses - a higher figure than usual driven in part by bus occupant KSI's in 2022 showing an increase of 27% versus pre-pandemic figures.

This guidance is for organisations looking to respond to the 2023 Bus Safety Innovation Challenge, a collaborative project between TfL's Open Innovation and Bus Safety Development Teams, and London Bus Operators. The challenge aims to identify solutions that would help address the problem statement of:

How might we reduce the number of bus passenger injuries resulting from slips, trips, and falls?

Through this challenge, TfL is looking to identify potential innovators that London Bus Operators could work with to trial their solutions. TfL will fund London Bus Operators to run these trials, with up to £100,000 per trial is available and a total funding limit of £1,000,000 for the overall project.

2 Before application submission

You must read this guidance note and the 2023 Bus Safety Challenge Process Map before submitting a response.

Any prospective projects must be conducive to the provision of safe, integrated, efficient and economic transport facilities or services to, from or within Greater London.

Responses will be reviewed by TfL and if suitable, you will be invited to present your solution to London Bus Operators. From here, Bus Operators may then seek to partner directly with you and propose to trial your solution with TfL.

This questionnaire activity is not itself a procurement activity; it is a way of connecting potentially suitable innovative suppliers with Bus Operators. All responses will be carefully considered but will not bind TfL to any approach, nor will responses be treated as conveying any promise or commitment on the part of the respondent.

Before you complete your response, you are strongly advised to check <https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/safety-and-security/road-safety/bus-safety> and <https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/publications-and-reports/bus-safety-data#executive-summary> to ensure other similar projects have not already been undertaken or are in process. Solutions that have been previously trialled or are already in process will not be considered.

3 Submitting your response

This opportunity will be open for an extended period and will close if one of the following criteria are met:

- The available funding for the innovation challenge has been exhausted
- A suitable number of innovations have been identified and TfL/London Bus Operators are satisfied with the responses being taken through to trial
- Reaches application deadline of 12:00pm (midday) 15th December 2023

4 Responding to Challenge

All responses should be made via the Microsoft Form linked below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/LHZUxdx0DH>

Additional supporting information can be submitted to innovationfunding@tfl.gov.uk with “(Company Name) 2023 Bus Safety Innovation Challenge Supporting Info” as email subject.

5 Response Suitability Criteria

Initial responses through the Microsoft Form linked previously in this document will be reviewed by TfL and if they meet the suitability criteria, then innovators will be invited to present their solutions to TfL and London Bus Operators. All responses will be shared with Bus Operators but only those which meet the suitability criteria will be invited to pitch to TfL and London Bus Operators.

Key suitability criteria:

- That there are no similar projects already being undertaken or planned that would duplicate the proposed solution
- That the proposed solution is clearly relevant to the problem statement and at least one of the focus areas
- That the proposed solution is mature enough to be viably trialled on the London Bus Network

6 Decisions and Feedback

The timelines as outlined in the 2023 Bus Safety Challenge Process Map are targets and are subject to change depending on availability of TfL and London Bus Operator representatives.

Any feedback received during the process is intended to be constructive. Contradiction in your feedback may suggest that your proposal could be clearer or better justified, as well as reflecting the different views of assessors. Your feedback may contain points or comments that you may disagree with. The comments provided will be based on the assessor’s interpretation of your solution and application.

No additional feedback will be provided and addressing feedback with TfL Open Innovation or TfL Bus Safety Development team members is not permitted.