

**COUNCIL FOR NATURE CONSERVATION
AND THE COUNTRYSIDE**
An Advisory Council to the Department of the Environment
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Department for Regional Development
Rapid Transit Division
Clarence Court
10 – 18 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8GB

Dear Sir/Madam

BELFAST RAPID TRANSIT CONSULTATION

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this consultation. The Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside is an independent statutory body established to advise the Government on issues related to nature conservation and the countryside in Northern Ireland, and our brief comments reflect that remit and our lack of expertise in transport matters.

CNCC welcomes the proposals for a Rapid Transit system for Belfast as one step towards a more sustainable transport network in our principal urban area. The proposals have the potential to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels and hence emissions of carbon dioxide by a significant amount. This will require significant investment to ensure that there is a viable alternative to the continued high level of private car use.

Yours faithfully



**PATRICK CASEMENT
CHAIRMAN**