

Women's Issues in Transport Conference, Paris April 15th 2014



Why does equity in transport matter?

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Key transport equity issues ...



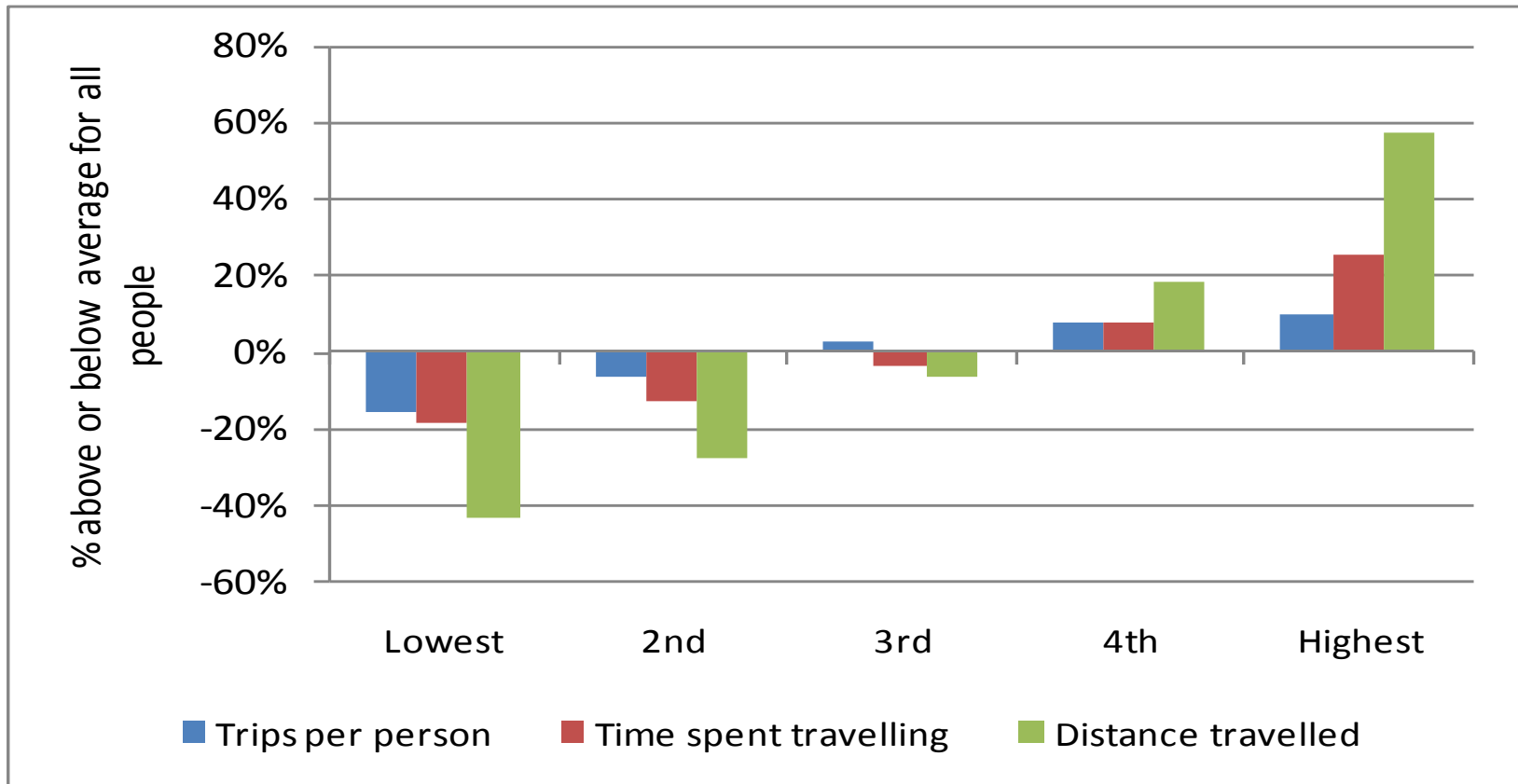
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- Huge & persistent inequalities across almost every indicator of transport behaviour
- An unmet need for motorised transport to fulfil basic daily activity needs
- Transport is a key barrier to access for key life chance opportunities such as employment, education, healthcare and social interaction
- Cost of travel is unaffordable resulting in significantly high levels of suppressed demand for some social groups
- Transport externalities disproportionately negatively affect low income groups
- Government spending on and subsidies for transport disproportionately benefit high income, highly mobile groups
- Spatial inequalities between different areas, urban, suburban, rural communities and between different regions and member states

Mobility by income



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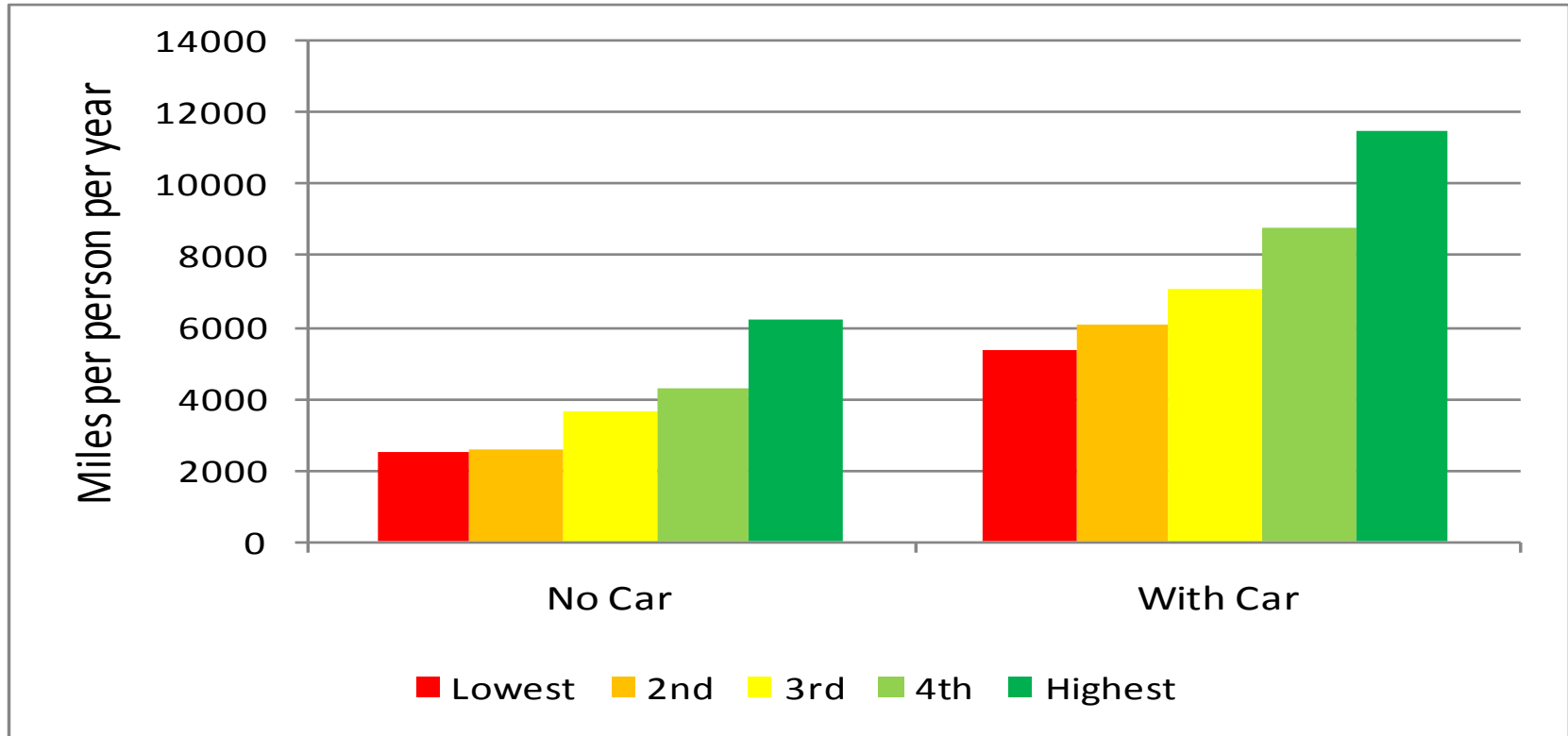


Source: National Travel Survey 2008

Effects of car ownership



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People with cars travel roughly twice the distance of those without across all income groups



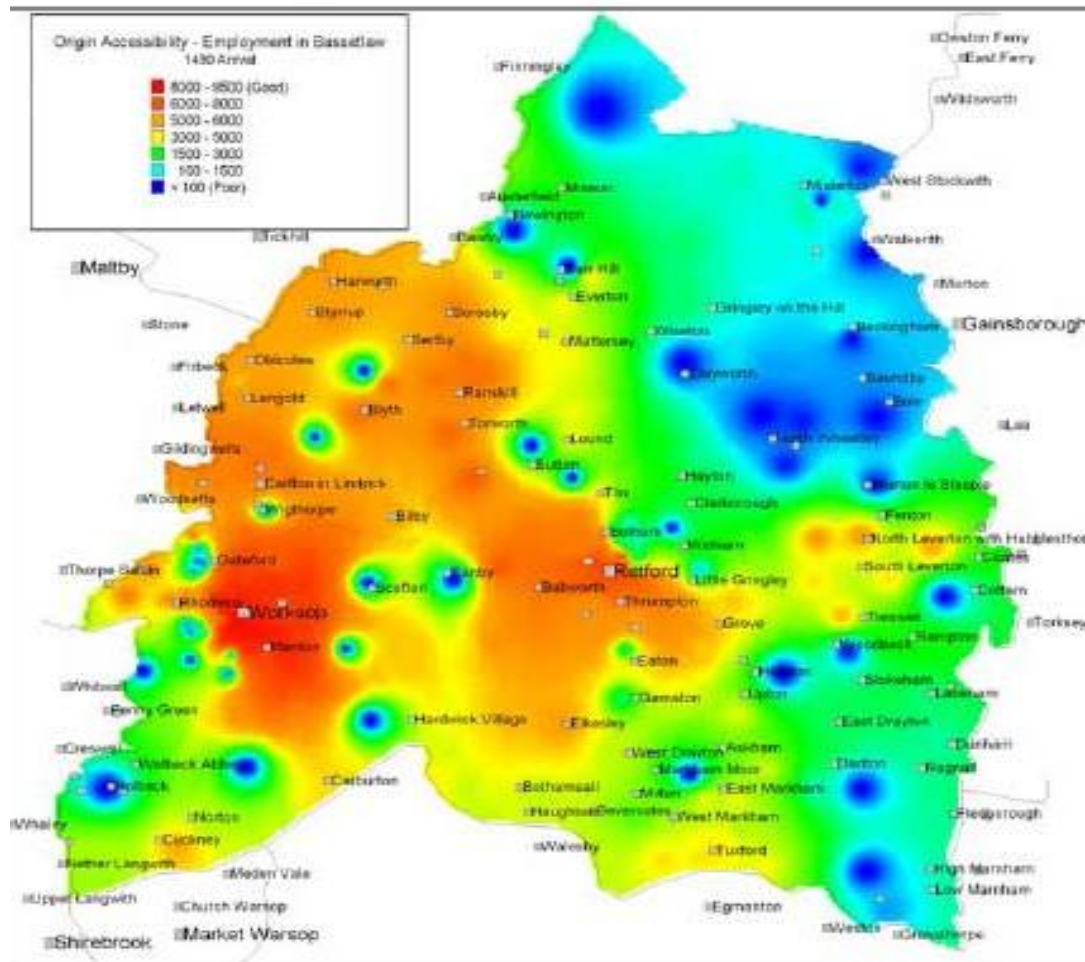
At risk groups

- People on low incomes more are likely to be non drivers and in a household without a car
 - Single parent families (mostly female) (57%)
 - People aged over 70 (70% are women over 70 years)
 - Separated (30%) or widowed (32%)
 - Non white people (33% compared with 17% of whites)
 - Children below 19 years

At risk places



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BUT DOES TRANSPORT INEQUITY REALLY MATTER?

Transport and social inequality



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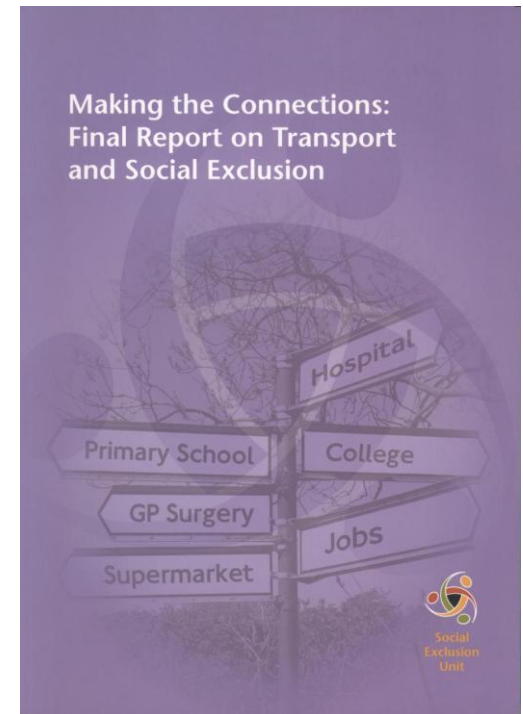
A significant barrier to accessing work

Linked to young people dropping out of college

Prevents people seeking medical attention

Affects people's participation in a range of other activities

Higher incidence of road traffic accidents and exposure air and noise pollution from road traffic.



[Social Exclusion Unit, 2003]

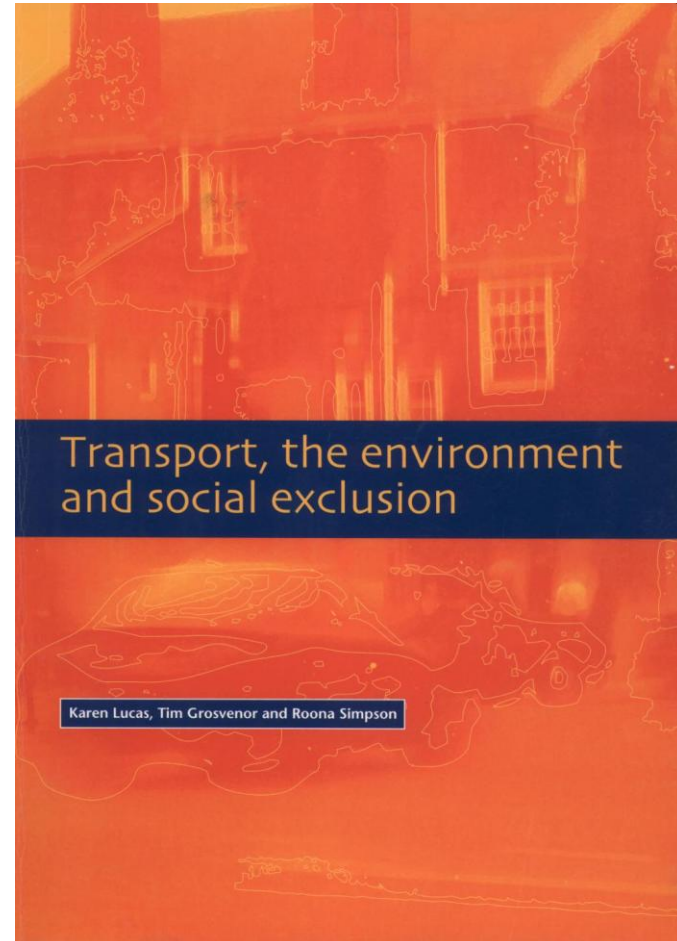
- Lack of mobility and low travel horizons can be associated with reduced social learning in early years and social isolation in later life
- People are less likely to seek medical attention if they live in areas of poor transport and low accessibility
- ‘Enclave’ communities are more likely to experience crime and anti-social behaviour

Main concerns:

- Lack of access to employment and local services
- Unwillingness to travel outside local area
- Personal safety issues

Transport concerns:

- Affordability of transit fares
- Timing and frequency of services
- Lack of information
- Disabled access and information



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WHAT CAN BE DONE?

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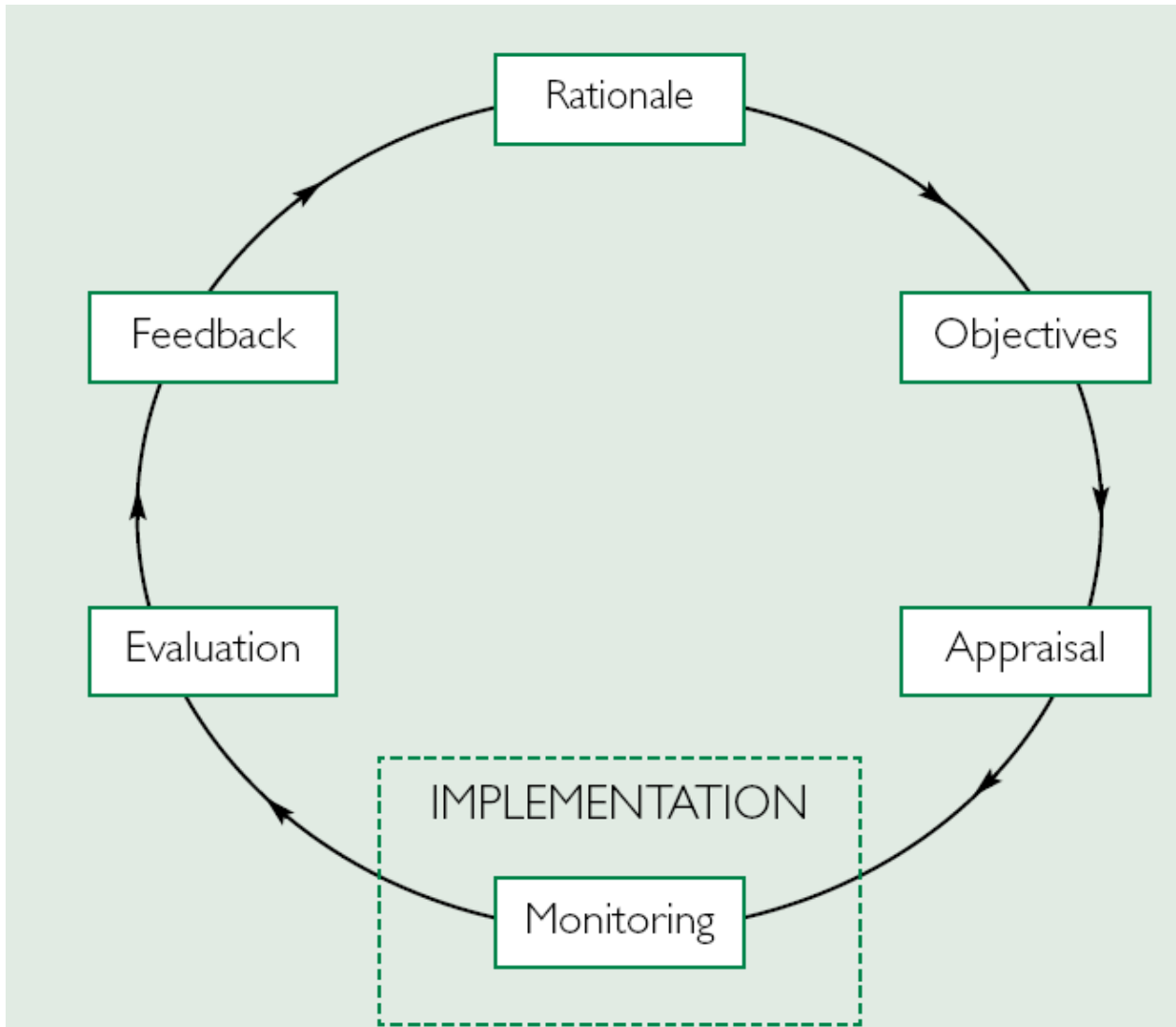
5 key transport equity objectives

1. Fair allocation of transport resources
2. Equal opportunity to be mobile and have access to key 'life chance' activities
3. Reducing adverse effects of transport system – including pollution, accidents and social exclusion
4. Inclusion in transport decision-making
5. Legal recourse to transport justice

Transport equity appraisal: 'The Full Policy Cycle'



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Source: HM Treasury
Green Book
(003/11), p3



1. Income (quintiles/deciles)
2. Age (children, young adults, older people)
3. Disabilities
4. Ethnic minorities
5. Non-car owners

Gender is a key dimension of all of these



Which impacts to measure?

1. User benefits – changes in generalised cost of travel
2. Accessibility (to key destinations)
3. Affordability (as per user benefits compared with income)
4. Health and wellbeing
 - Noise
 - Air quality
 - Accidents
5. Personal security
 - Incidence of crime
 - Fear of crime
6. Community severance

NB: impacts can be positive or negative

- Most EU countries do not appraise the equity of transport
- Current emphasis of transport equity appraisal is on *large projects* not local and smaller policies and strategies
- Most transport inequity is below the radar of current evaluation
- Pre-existing inequalities in transport supply are not being addressed
- Important missing impacts e.g. health and wellbeing; quality of life
- Local authorities need more worked examples of ‘how to’ do it
- Equity evaluation does not apply to removal of services
- Impact of current spending profile under austerity measures is not being measured

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Any questions?

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