

BODS Bank Holidays Issues

Substitute Holiday

This year (as with next year), Christmas Day and Boxing Day are mid-week.

This means that the day, and the substitute (aka displacement) holiday occur on the same day, i.e. the 25th and 26th of December are bank holiday days.

Here's what was seen from operators (using Christmas Day as an example, though this has been done for Christmas, Boxing Day and New Years Day too)

```
<DaysOfOperation>
  <ChristmasDay/>
</DaysOfOperation>
<DaysOfNonOperation>
  <ChristmasDayHoliday/>
</DaysOfNonOperation>
```

This is ambiguous.

It depends on how the consuming software has the date of the substitute day set, this should be the next time it is needed which is 2025 / 2026. If the date is not set, or set to for example 25 December 2023 for ChristmasDayHoliday, how should it be interpreted?

Does the service/journey run on the 25th or not?

The TXC spec says that it does not, because non-operation should be given precedence.

6.11.3.6 OperatingProfile / BankHolidayOperation

The **BankHolidayOperation** element (Figure 6-126) describes how the service does or does not operate on bank holidays, and comprises two collections of **BankHolidayStructure** elements, wrapped in **DaysOfOperation** and **DaysOfNonOperation** elements respectively. If conflicting dates are specified, days of non-operation are given precedence.

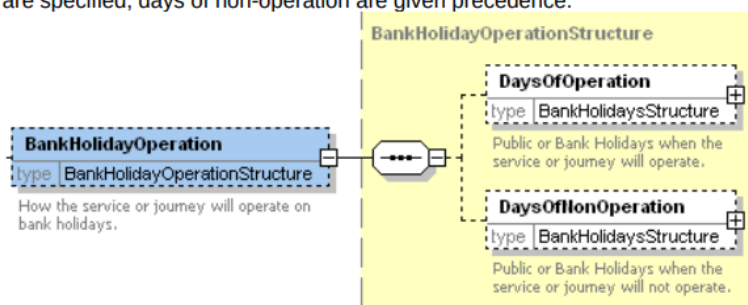


Figure 6-126 – OperatingProfile / BankHolidayOperation Element

Some operators have their TXC in this way, but their expectation is that the service/journey does run on Christmas Day.

If the TXC was written in either of the following ways, there's no issue with the way in which it is interpreted it because it's clear cut.

```
<DaysOfOperation>
```

```

        <ChristmasDay/>
        <ChristmasDayHoliday/>
    </DaysOfOperation>
    <DaysOfNonOperation>

    </DaysOfNonOperation>
    <DaysOfOperation>
        <ChristmasDay/>
    </DaysOfOperation>
    <DaysOfNonOperation>

    </DaysOfNonOperation>

```

The substitute holidays will have their use next time these events fall on a weekend, so it's not possible to advise not to use them at all.

How do we overcome this?

There is a lack of understanding generally about what they are and when they occur -improve guidance on what to do and how to code in systems is this all that is necessary?

Christmas and New Years Eve

Need to make easier – only mark journeys not running?

Result would be:

everything that doesn't run are identified and those that run don't need identifying.

Scottish Holidays

- StAndrewsDay
- StAndrewsDayHoliday
- **Jan2ndScotland**
- **Jan2ndScotlandHoliday**
- AugustBankHolidayScotland

Should be not required unless a bus stop is in Scotland.

Some feedback that StAndrewsDay is not widely observed so shouldn't be required.