

Transport for London

Minutes of the Surface Transport Panel

Conference Rooms 1&2, Ground Floor, Palestra
10.00am, 30 October 2014

Members

Baroness Grey-Thompson DBE	Chair
Charles Belcher	Vice Chair
Roger Burnely	Panel Member
Brian Cooke	Panel Member
Steve Wright	Panel Member

Staff

Howard Carter	General Counsel
Leon Daniels	Managing Director, Surface Transport
Patrick Doig	Director of Finance, Surface Transport
Garrett Emmerson	Chief Operating Officer, Surface Transport
Rhona Monck	Senior Strategy and Planning Manager, Surface Transport
Sue Riley	Secretariat Officer

49/10/14 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence had been received from Bob Oddy and Keith Williams.

Charles Belcher declared an interest as a member of Atos Origin Advisory Council on Transport. Baroness Grey-Thompson, DBE declared an interest as a member of the London Legacy Development Corporation. Steve Wright declared an interest as Chair of the Licensed Private Hire Car Association regarding any matters concerning private hire vehicles.

50/10/14 Minutes of the Meeting held on 9 July 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

51/10/14 Matters Arising and Actions List

As requested by Members, officers were currently investigating improving the quality of glass specification installed in buses to improve temperature control as part of the procurement process, and a further update would be provided at a future meeting (45/07/14).

The Panel noted the actions list.

52/10/14 Managing Director's Report

Leon Daniels presented the report, which updated the Panel on Surface Transport's performance for Periods 3, 4, 5 and 6 in 2014/15 (26 May 2014 – 14 September 2014) and provided an overview of recent major issues and developments within Surface Transport.

The success of London's Hybrid Buses Programme was highlighted. Members discussed the commercial viability of retrofitting low-emission engines to buses. Officers were seeking advice from independent advisors. It was agreed that Steve Wright would be sent a note outside of the meeting with figures of the number of vehicles involved in the assessment. **[Action: Leon Daniels]**

Officers agreed to enquire whether the Mayor was able to influence the use of green vehicles by the London Ambulance Service. **[Action: Leon Daniels]**

The total number of licenses issued to Private Hire operators had slightly increased although the corresponding numbers of vehicles had not, and this was attributed to vehicle sharing amongst some private hire drivers.

Leon Daniels had attended a number of Cycle Superhighways consultation events. There was a high level of engagement with the CBI, businesses and other stakeholders and issues raised included kerbside loading for freight, off loading of bus passengers and wheelchair users.

An update was provided on the Safer Lorries Scheme which was progressing well. Information was being disseminated through TfL's links with the appropriate trade associations and on the website. An increase in construction activity within London arising from economic growth meant that HGV vehicles were increasingly coming in to the capital from further afield.

It was confirmed that TfL policy was consistent with police practice when assessing whether a penalty notice should be issued to speeding drivers or alternatives such as speed awareness courses, where safety cameras were in use.

Members congratulated officers on the successful hosting of a recent seminar on bus planning and requested that they be informed of such events in future. **[Action: Leon Daniels]**

The Chair reported on her attendance at a successful TfL Access for All day. Main areas of concern raised involved bus driver behaviour and awareness.

Leon Daniels said that the number of compulsory training hours required by the Department for Transport for bus drivers could be higher, and that there is a need for a more focused approach on customer care and personal and professional development, which was being reviewed by Surface Transport.

It was confirmed that the current review of Social Needs Transport would be completed early in the New Year.

The Panel noted the report.

53/10/14 Taxi Fares Update

Garrett Emmerson introduced the update on the annual taxi fares and tariffs review. A small increase was being recommended.

It was confirmed that the current formula used to calculate taxi fares did not take in to account any decrease in fuel costs or other areas of driver income, such as advertising. Members questioned whether the fares could in future include provision for substituted decreases or increases in the cost of fuel.

Members noted the proposal for the use of roof top signage on taxis and that the proposal could have an impact on fuel usage and emissions.

The Panel noted the paper.

54/10/14 Cycle Superhighways

Leon Daniels presented the update on the progress of the Cycle Superhighways programme.

Analysis was still taking place on the potential impact of the cycle superhighways on bus journey times, possible mitigation solutions, and the impact on passenger travel choices. The outcome of the current consultation process would also be taken into account before a recommendation was made.

The Panel noted the paper.

55/010/14 Measuring Walking in London

Rhona Munck introduced the report setting out the Mayor's walking ambition and the progress being made to realise it.

Measuring walking would form part of the key performance indicators in Quarter 3 this year, despite the challenges of accessing quantifiable data.

The Chair suggested that officers contact Dr Catherine Holloway, University of Central London, who had attended a briefing session of the Safety, Accessibility and Sustainability Panel, to discuss issues of accessibility and design, including dropped kerbs, removal of railings and use of tactile paving. **[Action: Rhona Munck]**

It was agreed that officers would look at the options of promoting walking apps for mobile phones and expanding the use of Legible London signs to further promote walking. **[Action: Rhona Munck]**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.35am.

The next scheduled meeting would be held on 12 February 2015 at 10.00am.

Chair: _____

Date: _____