

Leaders' Committee

Report from the Transport & Environment Committee – 23 March 2016

Item no:

Report by: Alan Edwards **Job title:** Governance Manager
Date: 7 June 2016
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Summary: Summary of the minutes of the London Councils' Transport & Environment Committee held on 23 March 2016

Recommendations: For information.

1. Attendance: Cllr Dean Cohen (LB Barnet), Cllr Colin Tandy (LB Bexley - Deputy), Cllr Phil Jones (LB Camden), Cllr Kathy Bee (LB Croydon), Cllr Julian Bell (LB Ealing, Chair), Cllr Vicki Pite (LB Enfield - Deputy), Cllr Feryal Demirci (LB Hackney), Cllr Wesley Harcourt (LB Hammersmith & Fulham), Cllr Joanna Christophides (LB Haringey), Cllr Claudia Webbe (LB Islington), Cllr Tim Coleridge (RB Kensington & Chelsea), Cllr Richard Hudson (RB Kingston-upon-Thames – Deputy), Cllr Nick Draper (LB Merton), Cllr Ian Corbett (LB Newham), Cllr Baldesh Nijjar (LB Redbridge), Cllr Stephen Speak (LB Richmond-upon-Thames), Cllr Darren Merrill (LB Southwark), Cllr Jill Whitehead (LB Sutton), Cllr Caroline Usher (LB Wandsworth), Cllr Heather Acton (City of Westminster), Marianne Fredericks (City of London – Deputy), and Alex Williams (Transport for London).

2. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Lynda Rice (LB Barking & Dagenham), Cllr Alex Sawyer (LB Bexley), Cllr Ellie Southwood (LB Brent), Cllr Colin Smith (LB Bromley), Cllr Daniel Anderson (LB Enfield), Cllr Graham Henson (LB Harrow), Cllr Robert Benham (LB Havering), Cllr Keith Burrows (LB Hillingdon), Cllr Amrit Mann (LB Hounslow), Cllr Terry Paton (RB Kingston), Cllr Alan Smith (LB Lewisham), Cllr Clyde Loakes (LB Waltham Forest) and Michael Welbank (City of London)

3. Operation Clearway Update

The Committee received a report that had been prepared for the Transport and Environment Committee of London Councils, to update the Committee on the enforcement and engagement activity being undertaken as part of "Operation Clearway", in relation to free-standing advertising boards ("A" Boards) as well as other unlawful highway obstructions on the Transport for London Road Network (TLRN).

The Committee: **(i)** noted TfL's problem-solving approach to dealing with unauthorised obstructions on the TLRN, **(ii)** noted and commented on the new Operation Clearway Policy included in Appendix 1, **(iii)** endorsed continued support for borough officers own activity to jointly address wilful obstructions of the highway, and **(iv)** agreed that Alex Williams would take back the issue of the differing practices and policies that boroughs had regarding the obstruction of pathways, to the TfL team.

4. Chair's Report

The Committee received a report that updated members on transport and policy issues since the last TEC meeting on 10 December 2015, and provided a forward look until the next TEC meeting on 16 June 2016. The Committee noted the Chair's report.

5. Flood Partnerships Update

The Committee received a report that provided members with the 6-monthly update on the work of the seven sub-regional flood partnerships, the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (TRFCC) and the Environment Agency (EA). The Committee noted and commented on the report.

6. Sharing Skilled Transport Staff Initiative Update

The Committee received a report that updated members on the work and plans of the "Sharing Skilled Transport Staff Initiative", including recommendations for the extension of TfL's graduate programme to include borough work placements.

The Committee: **(i)** noted the update on progress set out in the report, **(ii)** agreed the proposed extension of the TfL graduate scheme to include optional borough placements, subject to TfL approval, **(iii)** noted the opportunity for boroughs to offer graduate placements as part of identified relevant TfL graduate schemes, and **(iv)** noted that details of a potential apprenticeship scheme would be brought back to TEC at a later date.

7. Mayor's Green Infrastructure Taskforce

The Committee received a report on the Mayor's Green Infrastructure Taskforce. Two of the recommendations were for the boroughs and one was for TEC. The report outlined the background to the Taskforce, the recommendations it had made, and the options for discussion at TEC.

The Committee: **(i)** noted and discussed the report, and in particular paragraphs 12-17 – "considering the recommendations", **(ii)** agreed that green infrastructure should not be added to the responsibility of the flooding sub-regional partnerships, and **(iii)** agreed that a further report on implementing the report's other recommendations would come back to the Executive for discussion.

8. DfT and Mayor of London's Rail Prospectus

The Committee considered a report on the DfT and Mayor of London's Rail Prospectus that set out plans to put TfL in control of more of London's suburban train services. It proposed a partnership between TfL and DfT that would agree new franchise specifications for train services. The Prospectus invited comments from stakeholders, and TEC was asked to agree the London Councils' response.

The Committee: **(i)** noted and discussed the report, **(ii)** agreed the proposed response (Appendix 1) to the consultation on the draft Rail Prospectus, **(iii)** agreed that TfL would look into the prospect of Freedom Pass holders being able to purchase "add-ons" to their journeys that carried on outside of London at a preferential rate, and **(iv)** agreed that TfL would look at the issue of ensuring ticket machines at all of their rail stations enabled the purchase of tickets for journeys all over the country.

9. Taxicard Scheme Progress Report

The Committee considered a report that informed members of the Taxicard trip budget projected outturn for 2015/16, and provided the outcome of the research into the reasons for the reduction in Taxicard journeys in recent years. The report also provided an update on the introduction of charging for replacement Taxicards.

The Committee: **(i)** noted the Taxicard trip budget projected outturn for 2015/16 based on data to January 2016, **(ii)** noted the outcome of the research into the reasons for the reduction in Taxicard journeys in recent years, and endorsed the officer responses to the report's recommendations; and **(iii)** noted the update on the introduction of a £10 charge for lost and damaged Taxicards.

10. Freedom Pass Progress Report

The Committee received a report that provided members with a general progress update on the Freedom Pass scheme and sought approval to retender the provision of externally managed support services.

The Committee: **(i)** approved the proposed approach, costs and timescales for the Freedom Pass managed service tender; and **(ii)** noted the progress of the 2016 Freedom Pass re-issue.

11. TEC Committee Dates 2016/17

The Committee received a report that notified members of the proposed TEC and TEC Executive Sub Committee dates for 2016/17.

The Committee: **(i)** noted and agreed the dates for TEC and TEC Executive Sub Committee meetings for the year 2016/17), with the exception of the TEC meeting date in March 2017, which would now convene on 23 March (and not 16 March 2017), and **(ii)** agreed a new start time of 10:00am for the TEC Executive Sub Committee meetings, in order for the City of London to attend these meetings.

12. Minutes of the TEC Executive Sub Committee Meeting held on 11 February 2016 (for noting)

The Committee noted the minutes of the TEC Executive Sub Committee held on 11 February 2016.

13. Minutes of the TEC Main Meeting held on 10 December 2015 (for agreeing)

The Committee agreed the minutes of the TEC Main meeting held on 10 December 2015.

The meeting finished at 15:45pm