

London Councils' Transport & Environment Committee

London Lorry Control Scheme Review Item no: 14

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Summary In December 2015 the Committee agreed that a Working Group should be formed to review the London Lorry Control Scheme (LLCS), its purpose and the impact it has on delivering goods and services in London. This report provides members with an update on the progress of the review.

Recommendations The Committee is recommended to:

- Note the content of this report

Background

1. The LLCS controls the movement of heavy goods vehicles over 18 tonnes maximum gross weight, at night and at weekends on specific roads on London's road network. The scheme has been in place since 1985 under the Greater London (Restriction of Goods Vehicles) Traffic Order 1985, LLA & TfL Act 2003. The scheme is in place to help minimise noise pollution in residential areas during unsociable hours through restricted use of these roads.
2. In December 2015 the Committee agreed that a Working Group should be formed to review the London Lorry Control Scheme (LLCS), its purpose and the impact it has on delivering goods and services in London.
3. The review has now commenced and seeks to assess the effectiveness of the scheme, including consideration of its impact on the freight industry, business and the benefits to London's residents. It will look at the management of freight, evaluate how the scheme can assist with the reduction of congestion and ensure noise pollution continues to be kept to a minimum in residential areas during unsociable hours.

The review will aim to ensure that the scheme continues to provide essential environmental benefits and protection for Londoners as it has done for over 30 years and will make sure the scheme plays an integrated role with other existing and emerging freight and environmental management initiatives being led by the Mayor and Boroughs.

Review Progress

4. A Steering Group has been established to lead the review and oversee the work of the Working Group. The first Steering Group meeting took place on 24 October and was chaired by Spencer Palmer, Director of Transport and Mobility at London Councils. The Steering Group members consist of officers from London Councils, TfL, Croydon, Westminster and the GLA.
5. The Steering Group discussed the Terms of reference for the review (see Appendix 1) and have agreed the key priorities for the Working Group, which include signage, hours of operation, extent of restrictions, enforcement, permissions and exemptions, taking account of technological advances in HGV design, as well as traffic management and planning techniques.
6. The Working Group members consist of officers from London Councils, TfL, sub-regional partnerships, Road Haulage Association, Freight Transport Association, London Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses, Small Business Association, Noise Abatement Society, British Beer and Pub Association, Mineral Products Association, London First and a resident's representative.
7. The first Working Group meeting is scheduled for 5 December 2016. Further meetings will be held each month until the spring and it is planned to complete the review and report its findings and recommendations back to TEC in summer 2017.

Financial Implications for London Councils

The review will be funded by the agreed 2016/17 TEC budget provision of £50,000 and a further £50,000 budget provision for 2017/18 is proposed as set out in the "Proposed TEC Revenue & Borough Charges 2017/18" report elsewhere on the agenda. The budget is intended to cover the cost of research and specialist consultant support required to complete the review.

Legal Implications for London Councils

There are no legal implications to this information only report.

Equalities Implications for London Councils

There are no equalities implications at this stage. The working group members have been selected to represent a broad cross-section of key stakeholders to help inform the review.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Terms of Reference

London Lorry Control Scheme Review 2016 - Terms of Reference

Context

Transport for London (TfL) predict that London's population is set to increase by almost two million by 2031, which will equate to an additional five million road trips on top of the 26 million that already take place, with 90% of all goods movement in London taking place by road, every day. Therefore, it is essential that London maintains a healthy road network not just for the economy but for its population.

The London Lorry Control Scheme (LLCS) restricts the movement of heavy goods vehicles over 18 tonnes maximum gross weight, at night and at weekends on specific roads on London's road network. The scheme has been in place since 1985 under the Greater London (Restriction of Goods Vehicles) Traffic Order 1985, LLA & TfL Act 2003. The scheme is in place to help minimise noise pollution in residential areas during unsociable hours through restricted use of these roads.

On 10 December 2015, London Councils' Transport Environment Committee (TEC) agreed that the Freight Borough Officer Liaison Group (BOLG) would form a separate working group to discuss the implications of the LLCS and to consider any requirements for amending the scheme.

Purpose and Aims

The review will seek to assess the effectiveness of the scheme, including consideration of its impact on the freight industry, business and the benefits to London's residents. It will look at the management of freight, evaluate how the scheme can assist with the reduction of congestion and ensure noise pollution continues to be kept to a minimum in residential areas during unsociable hours.

It will cover routing, signage, hours of operation, extent of restrictions, enforcement, permissions and exemptions, taking account of technological advances in HGV design, as well as traffic management and planning techniques.

The review will aim to ensure that the scheme continues to provide essential environmental benefits and protection for Londoners as it has done for over 30 years and will make sure the scheme plays an integrated role with other existing and emerging freight and environmental management initiatives being led by the Mayor and Boroughs.

Other specific aims include:

- Provide a forum for discussing the impacts, benefits and possible improvements to the scheme
- To gather information and data to help inform the review and future management of the scheme
- Consider changes to current arrangements in relation to routing, signing, hours of operation, restrictions, enforcement practice, application process, weight limits, exemptions, charging, administration, publicity, communication and the Traffic Regulation Order
- Make recommendations for TEC about possible changes to the scheme and any further work that may be necessary

- Work collaboratively with a wide range of stakeholders to ensure a range of views is considered and any publicity and communications are clear and consistent

Steering and Working Group

A Steering Group will be in place to provide a strategic overview of the aims of the review, setting out timescales, reporting structure and strategy. Alongside the Steering Group, the operational detail will be carried out by a wider Working Group, with both groups having representation from borough and TfL officers.

Membership

The Steering Group and Working Group will be chaired by London Councils and include relevant GLA, borough and TfL officers.

The Working Group will also include representation from a range of transport user groups, small business groups and road user/resident groups. The final membership of the Working Group will be agreed by the Steering Group.

Members will be expected to commit to and act as ambassadors and expert representatives of their authority or sector, actively contributing to the achievement of the group's aims within meetings and in their daily roles.

Meetings

The Steering Group is expected to meet bi-monthly. The first meeting will be held in October 2016.

The Working Group is expected to meet monthly. The first meeting will be held in December 2016.

Meetings will take place at the London Councils offices at 59½ Southwark Street, London SE1 0AL.

Meetings will last no more than 2.5 hours.

Governance and Reporting

Updates and progress reports will be presented to London Councils TEC, the London Freight Borough Officer Liaison group and any other relevant governing bodies within the timescales as set out by each organisation.

Resources and Support

London Councils TEC has agreed a budget of £50,000 in 2016/17 to support the review and an equal sum is proposed for 2017/18.