

Transport for London

Safety and Sustainability Panel

Subject: Improving the Health of Londoners – Transport Action Plan

Date: 19 March 2014

1 Purpose

- 1.1 This paper presents the Improving the Health of Londoners – Transport Action plan
- 1.2 The Panel is asked to note the paper and Transport Action Plan document.

2 Background

- 2.1 TfL produces a range of reports which indirectly relate to the broad topic of health. These include:
 - (a) Health, Safety and Environment Report - focuses on occupational health of TfL staff, road safety and transport safety; and
 - (b) Transport planning for healthier lifestyles – focuses on best practice examples to improve the integration of healthcare planning with transport and encouragement of the use of sustainable and active transport modes.
- 2.2 The transport system in London has a major impact on improving public health through, in particular, keeping the population physically active. Other major areas in which we improve health include increasing access to services (including healthcare), improving air quality, reducing road traffic injuries and noise.

3 Improving the health of Londoners – the role of the Transport Improvement Action Plan

- 3.1 TfL has not previously published in one place its role in improving the health of Londoners - Public Health. In March 2013 Local Authorities took on responsibility for Public Health – to improve the health of their residents.
- 3.2 Through provision of our transport system and supporting information and services, TfL's core business helps to contribute to Local Authorities' improving the health of their residents.

- 3.3 This action plan highlights the broad range of work that TfL does, and so positions our positive role, in improving health. It allows us to better communicate how TfL is supporting boroughs and delivering against the Mayoral requirements to improve health and reduce health inequalities. This action plan could potentially enable us to leverage external public health resources to support some aspects of our work.
- 3.4 The action plan also sets out how we will work differently over the next 3 years to more explicitly recognise how we improve health through our work. The actions are being delivered via TfL's Health Liaison Group as part of core business activities.
- 3.5 The report is timely as the Mayor has commissioned an independent review of health in London, chaired by Lord Ara Darzi and is seeking evidence and input from TfL. The Commissioner presented evidence to an expert panel in January and this action plan was formally submitted as part of TfL's evidence to the work of the London Health Commission.
- 3.6 The report is now available on the TfL website (<http://www.tfl.gov.uk/assets/downloads/businessandpartners/improving-the-health-of-londoners-transport-action-plan.pdf>) and some hard copies will be distributed to interested parties in coming weeks.

4 Recommendation

- 3.1 The Panel is asked to note the paper and Transport Action Plan.

5 Contact

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