Transport for London

Minutes of the Open Board

Committee Rooms 4-5, City Hall, The Queen’s Walk, London
10.05am, Thursday 6 December 2007

Members
Dave Wetzel  Vice Chair, Board Member
Christopher Garnett  Board Member
Stephen Glaister  Board Member
Sir Mike Hodgkinson  Board Member
Judith Hunt  Board Member
Eva Lindholm  Board Member
Paul Moore  Board Member
Patrick O'Keeffe  Board Member
Rana Roy  Board Member
Dabinderjit Singh Sidhu  Board Member
Tony West  Board Member

In Attendance
Nicky Gavron  Deputy Mayor (for part)
Bryan Heiser  Board Adviser
Murziline Parchment  Board Adviser
Lynn Sloman  Board Adviser

Staff
Steve Allen  Managing Director, Finance
Maria Antoniou  Group HR Director
David Brown  Managing Director, Surface Transport
Ian Brown  Managing Director, London Rail
Howard Carter  General Counsel
Stephen Critchley  Chief Finance Officer
Michèle Dix  Managing Director, Planning
Vernon Everitt  Managing Director, Marketing and Communications
Mary Hardy  Director of Internal Audit
Peter Hendy  Commissioner
Ellen Howard  Director of Corporate Governance
Tim O'Toole  Managing Director, London Underground
Valerie Todd  Managing Director, Group Services

Mike Robinson  Head of Secretariat

75/12/07  Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Dave Wetzel took the Chair. Apologies for absence had been received from Ken Livingstone, Peter Anderson, Honor Chapman, Lord Harris, Kirsten Hearn, Shiria Khatun and Sir Gulam Noon.

No interests were declared.
Minutes of the Open Meeting Held on 24 October 2007

The minutes of the open meeting held on 24 October 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising and Actions List

There were no matters arising or outstanding actions raised.

The Commissioner introduced his report. Board Members highlighted several issues, including those set out below.

The House of Commons Transport Committee had held an inquiry into the Public Private Partnership and London Underground. The Committee had been looking into the collapse of Metronet and TfL’s case had been well made.

The entry into force of the relevant provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004 was welcomed as it would soon enable the introduction of permits for highway works. The MD, Surface Transport explained that all London Boroughs were being encouraged to participate. All had agreed to do so in principle and the detail was currently being worked up. There would also be benefits for the utility companies as there would be greater scope to undertake works more effectively and efficiently.

The achievement in getting 50,000 people on income support to register for reduced fares was welcomed. The target was 150,000 and applications were currently coming in at around 4,000 per week. There would be more marketing of the scheme in June and efforts were being made to promote the initiative in partnership with London Boroughs as well as through existing channels with the Department for Work and Pensions.

The introduction of 10 hydrogen powered buses into TfL’s fleet was welcomed and publicity for this should be sought. Keeping abreast of the technology and research in this ground breaking area would also be very important.

The Commissioner had accompanied the Mayor on a recent visit to Delhi and Mumbai. Rana Roy had received a request for information from Mumbai which he would raise with the Commissioner’s office outside the meeting.

[ACTION: Sam Richards]

The MD, Group Services confirmed that the Board would be kept abreast of the current consultations with the unions on procedures for Attendance, Bullying and Harassment, Discipline, Grievance and Performance Improvement.

The Board noted the report.
Steve Allen introduced the report and the tabled presentation. He outlined the Group operational highlights as well as key workforce and financial data. Tim O'Toole, David Brown and Ian Brown also updated the Board in respect of London Underground, Surface Transport and London Rail in the areas of operations, investment, staff and sustainability.

Board Members specifically highlighted the improvements in sickness absence statistics, the excellent staff handling of Metronet Administration issues, the reduction in traffic in the Western extension congestion charging zone, the successful congestion charge contract re-let, the programme to widen access to taxi licences for minority groups and the iBus roll out.

The successful launch of the London Overground service was welcomed. It was confirmed that additional staffing had been in place from the first day and that a more detailed review was now taking place. The joint operations centre between TfL and the contractor was working well and hands on experience was being gained.

Connections between the London Heathrow Terminals and the increase in the number of buses servicing Terminal 5 were explained. A briefing note would be provided to Patrick O'Keeffe.  

The extensive works to be undertaken at Tottenham Court Road would require careful planning. Underground and Surface Transport staff were working closely on the matter together with representatives of the Borough Council. Further detail on the co-ordination of the works would be provided to a future Underground Advisory Panel.

The closure of the Victoria line to progress the line upgrade had gone well, due in part to good forward planning. Members suggested that the lessons learned should be spread across the network. This would happen, although some factors were specific to each line.

Appendix 3 to the report set out the work and planning underway to provide the transport infrastructure for the 2012 Olympic games. It was suggested that publicity should be sought and a leaflet could be produced to explain the work underway.

The Board noted:

1. TfL’s Operational and Financial Performance over the Second Quarter 2007/08;
2. TfL’s progress on the Investment Programme over the Second Quarter 2007/08; and
London Transport Museum Restructuring

Howard Carter introduced the report and explained that following the Board’s decision to establish the London Transport Museum as a charity, work had progressed on the governance arrangements. Charity Commission approval would be sought prior to the new arrangements coming into force in April 2008 and the Board would be asked to approve the transfer scheme at its March meeting.

The Board noted the contents of the report and:

1. approved the formation of the subsidiary company (ChariCo) to operate the Museum, noting the intention that it apply to the Charity Commission for registration as a charity;

2. approved the formation of a subsidiary of ChariCo;

3. delegated to the Commissioner or the MD Finance the authority to approve the entering into of any necessary agreements required to enable the restructuring; and

4. delegated to the Commissioner, the MD Finance, the MD of Marketing & Communications and General Counsel the ability to do all things necessary to facilitate the proposed restructuring as described above.

East London Transit Phase 1 and Greenwich Waterfront

Transit Phase 1 – Approval of Arrangements

David Brown introduced the report which sought authority for TfL to enter into agreements with appropriate London Boroughs so that it could make Traffic Regulation Orders on behalf of those Highway Authorities. This would enable TfL to have greater control and progress the two rapid transit bus schemes.

The Board:

1. approved TfL entering into separate agreements pursuant to Section 101(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 with each of the Boroughs for the joint discharge of their respective powers to make Traffic Regulation Orders pursuant to the Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for, in the case of the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham and the London Borough of Redbridge, the route of ELT1 and, in the case of the London Borough of Bexley and the London Borough of Greenwich, the route of GWT1;

2. approved that joint function to then be discharged by the Managing Director, Surface Transport or in his absence the Chief Operating Officer (Streets); and

3. authorised the Managing Director, Surface Transport or in his absence, the Chief Operating Officer (Streets) to approve any further details and changes with regard to the arrangements with the Boroughs in relation to the agreements set out above.
82/12/07  **Greenwich Waterfront Transit Phase 1 – Compulsory Purchase Powers**

David Brown introduced the report seeking authority to pursue Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) to progress the Greenwich Waterfront Transit. No commercial buildings or residential property would need to be acquired and negotiations to acquire the land directly would continue in parallel with the CPO procedures.

The Board:

1. approved in principle the making of one or more Compulsory Purchase Orders if required for the purposes of the Greenwich Waterfront Transit; and
2. delegated to the Managing Director, Surface Transport and in his absence General Counsel the finalisation of the scope and details of any Compulsory Purchase Order.

83/12/07  **Mayoral Direction – Changes to Fares**

Howard Carter introduced the report which set out the recent Direction from the Mayor in respect of fare changes.

The Board noted the receipt of the Direction from the Mayor.

84/12/07  **Report from the Safety, Health and Environment Committee – 13 November 2007**

Dave Wetzel introduced the report.

The Board noted the report.

85/12/07  **Report from the Finance Committee – 14 November 2007**

Sir Mike Hodgkinson introduced the report.

The Board noted the report.

86/12/07  **Report from the Audit Committee – 21 November 2007**

Judith Hunt introduced the report.

The Board noted the report.
87/12/07    **Any Other Business**

No additional items of business were raised and the meeting closed at 11.00am.

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 6 February 2008 at 10.00am.

Chair:  ____________________________
Date:   ____________________________