

TRANSPORT FOR LONDON

SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS

DATE: 4 MARCH 2008

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To update members on sustainability issues across the TfL Group.

2. DECISION REQUIRED

2.1 The Committee is recommended to NOTE the content of the report.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 This is the third of what will be regular quarterly updates on significant Sustainability related matters.

4. INFORMATION

4.1 Travel demand management

- Following the implementation of TfL's first TDM town centre scheme in Sutton, Richmond, Hounslow and Croydon have been shortlisted for the second area scheme. The third area scheme has been put back as the bid for EU CIVITAS funding was unsuccessful.
- Half of London's top 30 'congestion generating' organisations are working with TfL on travel plans, for example, BSkyB, the Post Office, the Met Police and Newsquest. The Corporate travel planning programme for the next financial year is due to be launched in conjunction with London First and CBI in February.

4.2 More sustainable modes

- On 8 November 2007, TfL celebrated the 10,000th school cycle parking installation at Stepney Green Mathematics and Computing College. By 10 January the total number installed had already risen to 11,000.
- The Legible London prototype scheme was launched in Bond Street on 27 November. The scheme is designed to provide better information for people who want to explore the Capital on foot.

- A feasibility study into the potential for closing Victoria Embankment to traffic on Sundays and for additional special events has been completed. The study concluded that, with the exception of closures for particular special events, there is no evidence of sufficient pedestrian and cyclist demand to justify the expense, legal process and traffic displacement impacts associated with closures.

4.3 Climate change

- Five new hybrid buses entered service in November on routes 360 and 129. Contracts for 10 hydrogen fuelled buses were awarded to bus supplier (ISE) and bus operator (First Group).
- The TfL Climate Change Fund (CCF) Approvals Group met and supported the following projects:

Taxis and Private Hire Vehicle Carbon Strategy Implementation, £1.2m over two years;

London Underground – Low Carbon Approaches for Stations, £3.2m over three years (subject to review at the end of phase 1); and

London Development Agency Green Homes, £1.0m over two years, for transport elements of the project.

- The governance, resources and plans to deliver the Mayor’s Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) continues to be put into place. An annual report is being prepared that provides an overview of TfL’s progress with implementing CCAP requirements for ground-based transport at the end of the first year since the Plan was launched in February 2007.

4.4 Other environment

- TfL’s Environment Report for 2007 has been approved by the Commissioner.
- The six month TfL-wide head office Energy Pledge campaign came to an end in December. This had aimed to deliver raised awareness and behavioural change on energy efficiency, with staff pledging to make one of several energy-saving changes in the office. During the campaign:
 - More than 2,100 people pledged, including 20% of head office staff;
 - Over one million kilowatt hours (kWh) less electricity was used at head offices, a 9% saving compared to the same period the previous year; and
 - Over 850,000 kWh less electricity was used on LU stations compared to the same period the previous year.

- Following on from the success of the Energy Pledge, the next initiative will focus on conserving materials, particularly paper, through reducing use, reusing, recycling and purchasing goods with recycled content. The campaign, called 'Papersmart' will run from March until the summer, and will be driven by TfL's growing network of over 120 Head Office Environmental Champions. The best team efforts and most helpful ideas will be recognised, with an awards presentation to be held on World Environment Day (5 June).

4.5 Social inclusion and equality

- Single fares have been frozen for 2008 and a new discount daily off-peak price cap was introduced on 2 January for holders of Young Persons, Disabled Persons or Senior National Railcards. They will receive a 34 per cent saving on Oyster daily price caps when using the Tube, DLR and London Overground.
- A report by the London Assembly concluded that crime on London's buses is low and getting lower as a result of the 'impressive efforts' that have been made to tackle the issue by TfL and its partners.
- Six disabled trainees completed their eight-week work experience placements in London Underground, and support for the scheme was expressed by the trainees and a wide number of stakeholders. Recruitment of the next six candidates is ongoing.

4.6 Health and wellbeing

- The Low Emission Zone was launched on 4 February, requiring diesel-engine vehicles over 12 tonnes driving within Greater London to meet Euro III standards for particulate emissions.

4.7 Business processes / mainstreaming sustainability

- TfL's latest update to its Business Plan, published in December, set out TfL's three overall goals and ten new business objectives, which make a clear commitment to sustainability. The objectives include commitments to reduce CO₂ emissions, influence a shift to more sustainable modes of transport, support sustainable growth and regeneration and improve the local environment.
- The London Freight Plan was launched on 9 January and contains proposals to reduce emissions, collisions and congestion associated with freight movements in the Capital.
- The Sustainability Unit presented its draft sustainability framework and mainstreaming strategy to the Commissioner in November, and continued consulting key stakeholders within TfL.

- In late 2006, a requirement was introduced in late 2006 to include commentary on sustainability within every paper presented to the TfL Board, Committees and Advisory Panels. TfL's Sustainability Unit reviewed a sample of the papers put forward since February 2007, to understand how sustainability has been addressed since the requirement was introduced. The report recommended a number of improvements.
- The Thames Gateway Bridge project team set up a Sustainability Case Management work stream, to assist in developing the overall case.

4.8 Responsible procurement

- The Mayor has formally launched his Responsible Procurement programme, which will take forward the work of the GLA and the functional bodies to implement more environmentally and socially beneficial procurement practices. The sustainable procurement policy has been renamed to reflect the Responsible Procurement brand which the GLA has developed, although the seven themes of the policy are unchanged. The launch was accompanied by a published report on progress to date in implementing the responsible procurement agenda, with examples of good practice from the functional bodies, including TfL. The report is available from the www.london.gov.uk website.
- The three contractors selected for the £65m 5-year contract recently let for maintenance of London's traffic signals had to demonstrate their commitment to environmental improvements, equality and diversity in their tenders for the work.
- A Sustainable Travel policy has been drafted by TfL's Group Procurement team, to encourage more sustainable travel by contractors and suppliers on TfL business, and is currently undergoing consultation with relevant teams across TfL.
- TfL has been consulting diverse suppliers and Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) on the barriers they perceive to working for TfL and its main contractors, to inform actions to promote supplier diversity.

5. RECOMMENDATION

The panel is asked to NOTE the report.