

Transport for London

Minutes of the Surface Transport Panel

Boardroom, 14th Floor, Windsor House, London
10.00am, Tuesday 19 May 2009

Members

Steven Norris	Chair, Panel Member
Charles Belcher	Panel Member
Judith Hunt	Panel Member
Bob Oddy	Panel Member
Steve Wright	Panel Member

Staff

Steve Allen	Managing Director, Finance
David Brown	Managing Director, Surface Transport
Peter Brown	Chief Operating Officer, Streets, Surface Transport
Howard Carter	General Counsel
Ellen Howard	Director of Corporate Governance
Jeroen Weimar	Chief Operating Officer, Enforcement and Compliance, Surface Transport

Victoria Moss Secretariat Officer

19/05/09 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence had been received from Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson, Daniel Moylan, Patrick O’Keeffe and Keith Williams.

The Chair declared an interest as President of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS UK). Bob Oddy declared an interest as General Secretary of the Licensed Taxi Drivers’ Association regarding any matters concerning licensed taxis. Steve Wright declared an interest as Chair of the Licensed Private Hire Car Association regarding any matters concerning licensed private hire vehicles.

20/05/09 Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 February 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2009 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

21/05/09 Matters Arising and Actions List

The Panel noted the actions list.

22/05/09 Managing Director’s Report

David Brown introduced his report and said that year on year figures showed a growth of 3.3 per cent in passenger journeys which was above target. The iBus

project was the biggest scheme of its kind in the world and successful completion of its roll out meant that the project could move on to the next phase. The market testing of East Thames Buses was down to two bidders and an update would be submitted to the Panel in July.

The Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS UK) award to TfL for 'Innovative Product of the Year' was for the UTC to VISSIM Interface, a world leading tool in real time traffic management.

The Panel noted the Managing Director's Report.

23/05/09 Independent Bus Review

David Brown introduced the report and explained that KPMG's initial findings would be available late May.

The Panel noted the report.

24/05/09 Delegation of Taxi and PHV Regulation Making Powers

Jeroen Weimar explained that, further to changes that had been made to PHV Regulations at the Board meeting on 31 March, it was now proposed that certain regulation making powers should be delegated to officers by the Board at its meeting on 24 June.

The Panel considered the report and noted that the Board would be asked to:

- 1 Agree that the making, amendment and revocation of the following regulations be delegated to the Commissioner or in his absence, the Managing Director, Surface Transport:**
 - (a) London Cab Orders (other than those which prescribe fares or those which are delegated to the Chief Operating Officer – Enforcement and Compliance, Surface Transport); and**
 - (b) PHV Regulations (other than those which prescribe licence fees).**

- 2 Agree that the making, amendment and revocation of the following London Cab Orders, London Taxi Sharing Scheme Orders and such other orders and regulations as are listed below be delegated to the Chief Operating Officer – Enforcement and Compliance, Surface Transport or in his absence, the Director of Taxi and Private Hire:**
 - (a) London Cab Orders made pursuant to section 9(1) of the TfL Act 2008 designating directional taxi ranks;**
 - (b) London Cab Orders made pursuant to section 10(1) of the TfL Act 2008 designating rest ranks;**
 - (c) London Cab Orders made pursuant to section 10(2) of the TfL Act 2008 prescribing the maximum lengths of time during which a hackney carriage may stand at a rest rank;**

- (d) **London Taxi Sharing Scheme Orders made pursuant to section 10(4) of the Transport Act 1985 other than those which prescribe fares;**
 - (e) **London Cab Orders which modify or suspend the operation of section 2 of the London Cab and Stage Carriage Act 1907 (privileged cab system) in respect of a station;**
 - (f) **London Cab Orders which fix the stands of hackney carriages and the persons who may attend at such stands pursuant to section 9(2) of the Metropolitan Public Carriage Act 1869; and**
 - (g) **Orders and regulations made pursuant to section 4 of London Hackney Carriages Act 1850 appointing standings for hackney carriages, the boundaries of such standings, number of carriages to be allowed in the standing, the times at which the standing may be used, enforcement of order at standings and removal of any person from a standing.**
- 3 Agree that the Board authorise General Counsel to make the necessary changes to TfL Standing Order No 2 to reflect the proposed new delegation arrangements as set out above.**

25/05/09 Private Hire Strategy Proposals 2009-2014

Jeroen Weimar introduced the paper and the Panel noted the issues around the enforcement and implementation of regulations.

The Panel discussed the possibility of introducing a scheme for PHVs similar to the Freight Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS), where operators would be marked on criteria, including the aesthetic condition of their vehicles and disabled access, and awarded ratings. This would give passengers an informed choice and work as an incentive to operators to raise their standards. Also included could be the requirement to display the licence number on all printed materials and clarification for customers on how and where to complain. The development of such a scheme would be subject to delivery on a basis of no cost to TfL. The benefits and disbenefits of a pan-London 'one number' telephone service was also discussed.

The Panel expressed reservations about the Criminal Records Bureau approach in relation to checks on drivers and the potential implications for passenger safety and gave its strong support to TfL Officers raising this with the DfT and the Home Office.

The Panel agreed that policy should be developed with an emphasis on adding value and minimising cost.

The Panel discussed the report and provided guidance on the development of policy.

26/05/09 New Approach to Compliance: A Fair Deal for Drivers

Jeroen Weimar explained the new, common sense approach to enforcement of traffic violations.

The Panel agreed that regulations around enforcement on Bank Holidays were confusing and emphasised the importance of consistency, clarity and good signage.

The Panel noted the report.

27/05/09 Freight and Night Deliveries

David Brown introduced the paper and stated that decreasing peak, day-time deliveries would be a critical success factor to smoothing traffic flow and reducing freight/cycle collisions in London.

The London Freight Plan's Delivery and Servicing Plan (DSP) helped manage demand at a local, building-specific level as well as encouraging the use of Freight Operator Scheme members who demonstrated a clear commitment to legal compliance and best practice.

The Panel considered that DSPs and FORS should be adopted for all GLA Group and borough premises, fleets and contracted suppliers. Therefore, with the support of London Councils and the boroughs, FORS should include measures to realise the potential of out-of-hours deliveries with regulatory relaxations for quiet freight operations and be promoted to large retailers, supermarkets and other appropriate land-uses, stressing the benefits to London of reduced congestion, collisions and increased freight efficiency.

The Panel noted the report.

28/05/09 Road Transport Premises Byelaws

Howard Carter introduced the paper.

The Panel considered the report and noted that the Board would be asked to:

- 1 approve the draft RTP Byelaws; and**
- 2 delegate authority to the Commissioner to make the RTP Byelaws and submit the RTP Byelaws to the Secretary of State for confirmation and make any consequential amendments.**

29/05/09 Pedicabs Update

The Panel discussed the four options proposed in the paper and gave its broad support to the fourth which favoured the development of primary legislation for regulation.

The Panel noted the report.

30/05/09 Cycle Hire Scheme Update

David Brown introduced the paper and explained that while the contract award may

now be later than originally thought, planning permission applications were on target. A meeting was scheduled with Network Rail to discuss work around stations. The Panel was pleased to note that the scheme would be Oyster compatible.

The Panel noted the report.

31/05/09 Cycle Highways Stakeholder Management Update

David Brown reported that sessions had taken place with the boroughs on the two pilot routes, which were due for delivery in May 2010.

The Panel noted the report.

32/05/09 Any Other Business

Steve Wright informed the Panel of the development, by Alan Haslehurst of *CabOperator*, of an innovative ecommerce solution called *CabFiles*. He suggested that TfL could offer some technical assistance in relation to the programme.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.50am.

The next meeting would be held on 3 July 2009 at 10.00am.

Chair: _____

Date: _____