

Transport for London

Minutes of a meeting of the Board
held on Wednesday 8th November 2000, starting at 10.30 a.m.
in Room AG16, Romney House, Marsham Street, London SW1P 3PY

Present:

Board members:	Ken Livingstone (Chair)	
	Dave Wetzel (Vice-Chair)	
	Stephen Glaister	Robert Lane
	Kirsten Hearn	Joyce Mamode
	Mike Hodgkinson	Steven Norris
	Oli Jackson	David Quarmby
	Susan Kramer	Tony West
Special Advisor in attendance:	Bryan Heiser	
TfL Officers in attendance:	Betty Morgan	
	Maureen Nolan	
	Michael Swiggs	
Others in attendance:	David Begg (items 53 – 54)	
	Nicky Gavron	
	Kerry Hamilton (item 49 only)	

49/00 PRESENTATION ON WOMENS' ISSUES

The meeting was preceded by a presentation on issues surrounding women and travel by Professor Kerry Hamilton, Head of Transport Studies at the University of East London.

The points below were **noted** in the discussion following the presentation:

- It was **agreed** that more work should be carried out into studies on safety of sub-groups of women while using transport but it was **noted** that detailed studies would require more funding and time.
- It was suggested that buses could be made more user-friendly by putting conductors onto modern buses. It was **noted** that budgetary factors would determine whether this would be possible.
- It was **noted** that TfL Officers had been requested to consult with user groups on bus design.

- Incentives would be needed to encourage women to convert from car usage to public transport. It was **noted** that TfL was considering selling Carnet tickets at a discount to the normal fare which would be of benefit to women as women often have irregular journey patterns.
- It was **noted** that relatively few women were represented in senior positions in transport. Educators need to encourage women to enter the field, which would help to break down barriers for women.

50/00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Jimmy Knapp, Paul Moore and Lynn Sloman.

51/00 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the previous Board meetings held on 3rd October were **approved** as a true record.

52/00 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

53/00 REPORTS

53.1/00 Senior Appointments

The following points were **noted**:

- Bob Chilton, Acting Shadow Commissioner appointed for a short interim period, had left. It was agreed that a letter of appreciation would be sent to him on behalf of the Board.
- Bob Kiley had been selected as Transport Commissioner. He intended to be in the UK on a periodic basis whilst his contract was being finalised, and should be in post full time from early January 2001.
- Michael Swiggs had been appointed Acting Deputy Commissioner.
- The appointments of Derek Turner (Director of Street Management), Richard Smith (Director of Integration) and Peter Hendy (Director of London Bus Services Ltd) had been confirmed. Contracts were being finalised. Peter Hendy hoped to take up his post from the first week of December 2000.
- David Begg, Chair of the Integrated Transport Commission, had been appointed to the TfL Board. David Begg then joined other members at the Board table.

Board members expressed a desire to meet Bob Kiley and it was agreed that this would be arranged.

Concern was expressed about the lack of meaningful information provided by the Government regarding the PPP. It was **noted** that if required information remained outstanding, the matter might have to be resolved in court.

It was **noted** that Bob Kiley had put on record his view on the importance of Underground safety. He was scheduled to meet the Health and Safety Executive on his next visit to the UK.

The Chair reassured the Board that an interim appointment for the Finance and Performance Director was likely soon. A permanent appointment for this post was a high priority.

The following points were also noted:

- experienced staff were in the positions of Chief Finance Officer and Business Planning and Performance Manager;
- the Finance and Corporate Services board, meeting monthly, was in a position to give guidance and advice; and
- processes were in place to agree the budget.

Board members were invited to address their concerns or suggestions in this area to Michael Swiggs.

53.2 Development of Performance Indicators and September Performance Report

The monthly Performance Report for September 2000 was considered. It was noted that incorporation of the new performance indicators was not likely before the start of the next financial year. This would allow sufficient time for the performance indicators to be proposed and debated by the Board before being integrated into the reporting process.

It was **agreed** that an exception report, which outlined any items of significance which required further consideration, should be included in the Report's Executive Summary.

In the continuing debate on more meaningful performance indicators, the following suggestions were made:

- service indicators should differentiate between peak and off-peak services; and
- TfL should consider utilising measures the Strategic Rail Authority employs to measure operating performance, where possible (for example, measures of overcrowding).

In answer to a question raised on the pattern and management of sickness absence within TfL, it was **noted** that areas within TfL had inherited practices which had not yet been harmonised across the organisation. It was **agreed** that a briefing note on the subject should be distributed to Board members.

It was **noted** that although night bus performance had improved, general bus performance was worse than budgetted. The sharp seasonal effect in September when schools reopen and the widespread disruption arising from queues forming as a result of the fuel crisis were contributing factors. It was **agreed** that a report on bus services should be brought to the Board as a supplement to the Performance Report (possibly quarterly). It was also **agreed** that the Board would undertake a periodic review of each of the TfL operations.

54/00 TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Richard Smith gave a short outline of the key points of the Mayor's draft transport strategy.

It was **noted** that the public version of the strategy, incorporating any changes in response to consultation with the Assembly and the functional bodies (including TfL), was due in January 2001. The deadline for public responses was March 2001. The final strategy should be published in mid 2001.

The Board was invited to comment on the draft transport strategy and in particular, to give their views:

- as to whether priorities outlined in the strategy were correct;
- on the relative importance of the priorities; and
- on what was missing or inadequately defined within the strategy.

Board Members should provide their comments to Richard Smith as soon as possible. Richard Smith will prepare a consolidated TfL response which will be brought to the next Board meeting.

Board members congratulated the authors of the document for producing a report which read well and which presented a breadth of issues.

A fire alarm interrupted proceedings and following this, the meeting was closed at 12.50 p.m.