

Transport for London

Minutes of the Surface Transport Panel

Boardroom, 14th Floor, Windsor House
2.30pm, 18 February 2014

Members

Baroness Grey-Thompson	Chair
Charles Belcher	Vice Chair
Bob Oddy	Panel Member
Steve Wright	Panel Member

Staff

Howard Carter	General Counsel
Leon Daniels	Managing Director, Surface Transport
Garrett Emmerson	Chief Operating Officer, Surface Transport
David Hendry	Director of Finance, Surface Transport
Sue Riley	Secretariat Officer

The Chair thanked David Hendry, on behalf of the Committee for his contribution to the Panel meetings, as this was his last meeting.

30/02/14 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence had been received from Keith Williams and Brian Cooke.

Baroness Grey-Thompson declared an interest as a member of the London Legacy Development Corporation. Bob Oddy declared an interest as Deputy General Secretary of the Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association regarding any matters concerning taxis. Steve Wright declared an interest as Chair of the Licensed Private Hire Car Association regarding any matters concerning private hire vehicles.

31/02/14 Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 October 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

32/02/14 Matters Arising and Actions List

As agreed at the Board meeting of 5 February 2014, future items on Taxi and Private Hire Charges would be submitted to a meeting of the Panel in the first instance.

[Action: Leon Daniels]

Members had been provided with further information, requested at the last meeting about the grounds on which the 20 per cent of Private Hire Operators failed compliance inspections, which would be published with the papers for the Panel meeting of 9 April 2014.

An update on the outstanding action on the status of the customer satisfaction survey on the new taxi and private hire licensing depot arrangements would be provided at the next meeting. **[Action: Helen Chapman]**

The Panel noted the actions list.

33/02/14 Managing Director's Report

Leon Daniels presented the report, which updated the Panel on Surface Transport's performance for Periods 6, 7 and 8 (6 September to 7 December 2013) and an overview of recent major issues and developments.

An increase in bus kilometres lost, impacting bus excess wait time and scheduled services operated, was highlighted, and as this appeared to be a continuing trend, was being examined.

It was confirmed that load factors on buses were increasing, although this was not, as yet, impacting on customer satisfaction. It was agreed that Members would be provided with more detailed information on bus load factors. **[Action: Mike Weston]**

Other areas highlighted in the report included the significant increase in passenger usage of London River Services, particularly during strike days, and the growth in the use of Victoria Coach Station. Challenges with the development of the current site were outlined and Members would receive further information during the site visit to the coach station, following the meeting.

The mismatch between the numbers of taxi and private hire drivers and the number of licences issued was due to a number of factors, including vehicles off the road because of servicing and repairs, and some licenses which were issued but were not utilised by drivers, due to change in circumstances.

Officers agreed to investigate if some licensed drivers were not working for an operator but using phone applications and websites to gain custom, and if this could impact on congestion charging payments. **[Action: Garrett Emmerson]**

It was reported that the outcome of the scheduled review of social needs transport would be submitted to a future meeting. **[Action: Leon Daniels]**

Members welcomed the success of the recent Safeway event, which involved stopping targeted lorries and vehicles for safety and criminal checks. It was suggested that a similar operation could be carried out against illegal mini cab drivers.

The Panel noted the report.

34/02/14 Any Other Business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.05pm.

The next scheduled meeting would be held on 9 April 2014.

Chair: _____

Date: _____