

Transport for London

Minutes of the Surface Transport Panel

Conference Rooms 1&2, Ground Floor, Palestra
10.00am, 9 April 2014

Members

Baroness Grey-Thompson	Chair
Charles Belcher	Vice Chair
Roger Burnley	Panel Member
Brian Cooke	Panel Member
Steve Wright	Panel Member

Staff

Howard Carter	General Counsel
Leon Daniels	Managing Director, Surface Transport
Michèle Dix	Managing Director, Planning (for part)
Patrick Doig	Director of Finance, Surface Transport
Garrett Emmerson	Chief Operating Officer, Surface Transport
Sue Riley	Secretariat Officer

The Chair welcomed Roger Burnley and Patrick Doig to their first meeting of the Panel. Members were also reminded that this was the first meeting of the Panel to be held in public.

35/04/14 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence had been received from Bob Oddy and Keith Williams.

Baroness Grey-Thompson declared an interest as a member of the London Legacy Development Corporation. Steve Wright declared an interest as Chair of the Licensed Private Hire Car Association regarding any matters concerning private hire vehicles.

36/04/14 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 February 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

37/04/14 Matters Arising and Actions List

A date had been scheduled for interested Members of the Panel to meet informally with officers to discuss taxi and private hire charges at Heathrow airport.

Leon Daniels advised Members that the average load per bus had increased by 25 per cent since 2000, and additional capacity was continually being built in to the service through increased bus frequency, greater use of double decker buses and the

re-deployment of buses in relation to demand. Due to economic growth within London, congestion and traffic speeds were a constant challenge, and as a result, additional future investment would be needed in the bus network. Currently 15 schemes were in place to increase bus frequency across London.

Garrett Emmerson reported that checks were carried out on taxi and private hire drivers to ensure compliance with TfL's licensing procedures and any breaches of those guidelines would result in the vehicle being removed.

The Panel noted the actions list.

38/04/14 Managing Director's Report

Leon Daniels presented the report, which updated the Panel on Surface Transport's performance for Periods 10 and 11 (7 December 2013 to 1 February 2014) and an overview of recent major issues and developments.

Areas highlighted included events organised as part of the Year of the Bus 2014. A formal response was being drafted to the London Assembly's Transport Committee scrutiny report on Buses in London 2013, which had been delayed due to a recently held stakeholder event hosted by the Committee.

Improvements to the licensing service were being made and the backlog of applications had been reduced by 25 per cent overall and the renewals backlog reduced by 50 per cent. A combination of issues with NSL, the IT system provider, changes to the Disclosure and Barring Service and an increased number of applications had resulted in a reduced level of service. A new counter service was also being introduced following consultation with users.

The Panel discussed the challenges in development of the Victoria Coach Station site. While TfL supported the principle of providing the site for commercial operators, it had no statutory duty to do so. The Panel commended TfL for the efficient way the station was run and the outstanding service provided to travellers with special needs.

TfL was working with the boroughs that had not been successful in their bids as part of the 'Mini-Holland' scheme announced by the Mayor, as all the schemes submitted had been of such a high standard.

The Panel welcomed the recent vote by the European Union in favour of proposed changes to the vehicles Weights and Dimensions Directive, which would enhance road safety and improve the vision of drivers of heavy goods vehicles.

TfL had been commended in its response to a major incident at Caterham Bourne in the London Borough of Croydon on 6 February 2014.

It was agreed that officers would review the possibility of providing a bus service on Christmas Day. **[Action: Leon Daniels]**

Members welcomed the continued reduction in crime on the bus network. Further information would be provided on crime figures for the night bus network. **[Action: Mike Weston]**

A report would be submitted to a future meeting on possible improvements for pedestrians at Euston and King's Cross St Pancras, including signage, better integration between the stations and quality of paving. **[Action: Garrett Emmerson]**

The Panel noted the report.

39/04/14 2014/15 Performance Measures and Targets

Patrick Doig introduced the paper providing the Panel with an overview of the key Surface Transport performance measures and targets for 2014/15.

The Panel welcomed the report and requested that future targets be presented to Members for consultation prior to publication. **[Action: Patrick Doig]**

Members were advised that targets were flexible and if the finalised figures for 2013/14 performance exceeded the 2014/15 targeted levels, the targets would be increased for 2014/15.

Further information would be provided on data used to plan and develop targets for walking. **[Action: Garrett Emmerson]**

It was agreed that the targets for taxi and private hire inspection pass rates would be increased in future, as well as aiming to exceed the target for the current year. **[Action: Patrick Doig]**

The Panel noted the report.

40/04/14 Roads Task Force Update

Michèle Dix introduced the paper, which provided an update on the development of strategic measures required to achieve the Roads Task Force vision for London's roads and streets.

All options were being considered as part of a radical long term strategy to manage growth and demand, including increased out of hours freight deliveries, road pricing and elevated walkways.

The Panel noted the progress and the proposed next steps.

41/04/14 Any Other Business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.55am.

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

Chair: _____

Date: _____