

Subject: Surface Transport Access to Heathrow Airport

Report to: Transport Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 10 November 2015

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides background information to the Transport Committee in relation to its meeting with invited guests on surface transport access to Heathrow Airport.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes the report, puts questions on the Private Hire Regulations Review to the invited guests and notes the discussion.**
- 2.2 **That the Committee delegates authority to the Chair, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree a submission to the Government and House of Commons Transport Committee on this topic.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Airports Commission published its final report in July 2013, considering proposals expanding of airport capacity in the South East. The Commission recommended that Heathrow Airport be expanded to three runways with a new North West Runway constructed, rejecting similar proposals from Gatwick Airport.¹ The Mayor and TfL have published a response to the report criticising aspects of the Commission's analysis.²
- 3.2 The Chair of the Airports Commission, Sir Howard Davies, and Head of the Airports Commission Secretariat, Philip Graham, appeared at the London Assembly Plenary meeting to answer questions from Assembly Members on 8 September 2015.³

¹ Airports Commission: Final Report, July 2015: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/airports-commission-final-report>

² Mayor of London's response to the Airports Commission recommendation for a three-runway Heathrow, September 2015. <http://content.tfl.gov.uk/tfl-response-to-airports-commissions-final-recommendation.pdf>

³ Minutes of this meeting are available at: <http://www.london.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=179&MId=5664>

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 The Government will make the final decision on whether to approve the expansion of Heathrow Airport, or an alternative scheme. Based on the discussion at this meeting, the Committee may consider submitting its views on surface transport access to Heathrow Airport to the Government. The House of Commons Transport Committee is also conducting an inquiry on this topic, so the Committee could also submit its views to that inquiry. It is recommended that the Committee delegate authority to the Chair in consultation with party Group Lead Members to agree the content of any submission on this topic.
- 4.2 The following guests have been invited to the meeting to discuss the Private Hire Regulations Review with the Committee:
- Richard De Cani, Director of Strategy and Policy, TfL; and
 - Simon Nielsen, Head of Policy Appraisal and Evaluation, TfL.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications to the GLA arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report:

None

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| Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 |
| List of Background Papers: None |
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