

Subject: Transport Committee Work Programme

Report to: Transport Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 2 February 2017

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides details of planned or ongoing scrutiny work by the Transport Committee and the schedule of Committee meetings for the 2016/17 Assembly year.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee agrees its work programme for the remainder of the 2016/17 Assembly year, including the schedule of topics for forthcoming meetings set out at paragraph 4.11.**
- 2.2 **That the Committee agrees to hold an additional meeting on Wednesday 19 April 2017 at 2pm, with the main purpose being a discussion with the Mayor's new Cycling and Walking Commissioner.**
- 2.3 **That the Committee notes the record of its site visits to a) the Dearman Technology Centre and b) the High Speed One service at St. Pancras station, as included at Appendices 1 and 2.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Committee receives a report monitoring the progress of its work programme at each meeting.

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 The Committee has discussed a number of priorities for the Committee's work programme in 2016/17. The following is a list of topics that the Committee will aim to explore:
- Pedestrianisation of Oxford Street;
 - Traffic congestion;
 - Buses;
 - Mayor's Transport Strategy;

- Night tube;
- Tube stations – staffing and ticket office closures;
- Cycling; and
- Surface transport access to airports.

4.2 In addition to the above topics, the Committee will also seek to hold a meeting with the Commissioner of Transport for London (TfL).

4.3 The exact scope and timings for work on any of these other possible topics will be determined in due course and more detailed reports submitted to future meetings. The Committee seeks to maintain flexibility in its work programme to take account of any relevant developments when scheduling its work and has a rolling work programme so work on any topics may continue beyond each Assembly year.

Motorcycle safety

4.4 The Committee investigated motorcycle safety in 2015/16, publishing the report *Easy rider* in March 2016. The Chair has written to TfL to request an update on progress with recommendations in this report.

Bus services

4.5 The Committee has identified London's bus services as a topic for investigation in 2017. Following scoping research and discussion among Members, the Committee has identified two major strands to this work: bus network planning and bus safety. Today's meeting is being used to discuss bus safety.

Expansion of Heathrow Airport

4.6 On 25 October 2016, the Government announced its support for the construction of a third runway at Heathrow Airport. Expansion of Heathrow will require significant changes to London's transport network, including adding capacity to road and rail networks. The Committee discussed this topic with stakeholders at its meeting on 8 December 2016. The Committee has written to the Department for Transport sharing findings from the investigation; this letter is included under agenda item 5 – Action Taken Under Delegated Authority.

Pedestrianisation of Oxford Street

4.7 Following a pledge made by the Mayor in his election manifesto, the Committee considered a proposal for pedestrianising Oxford Street at its meeting on 15 June 2016. The Committee submitted its views to the Mayor on plans for pedestrianisation in early September 2016. The Chair has received a response from the Mayor to this letter, which was noted at the Committee's meeting on 8 December 2016.

Traffic congestion

4.8 The Committee investigated traffic congestion during the first half of 2016/17. Recent evidence suggests congestion has risen in London, with various causes cited including an increase in internet shopping, roadworks and the provision of private hire services. The Committee's meetings in September and October 2016 were used to discuss this topic. The Committee published a report on this topic in January 2017, which is being considered under another item on this agenda.

London Underground services

- 4.9 The Committee discussed major changes to London Underground services at its November 2016 meeting. TfL and London TravelWatch representatives were invited to attend, with discussion expected focusing on the rollout of night tube services on a number of lines, and the closure of ticket offices and associated station staffing changes.

Cycling and walking

- 4.10 The Committee has identified TfL's cycling and walking programmes as a topic for a future meeting. The meeting would be used to scrutinise schemes such as the Cycle Superhighways and Quietways, and the future priorities of the Mayor's Cycling and Walking Commissioner. Will Norman has now been appointed as the Cycling and Walking Commissioner. The timing of the appointment means there is no opportunity for a discussion with Mr. Norman within the Committee's agreed schedule of meetings. Therefore, it is proposed that the Committee hold an additional meeting on Wednesday 19 April 2017 at 2pm, and invite Mr. Norman to attend.

Site visits

- 4.11 The Committee has undertaken two site visits recently. The first was to the Dearman Technology Centre on 7 November 2016; the record of this visit can be found at **Appendix 1**. The second was St Pancras station, for a tour of High Speed One facilities, on 23 November 2016; the record of this visit can be found at **Appendix 2**.

2016/17 schedule of meetings

- 4.12 The dates of the next meetings of the Transport Committee are set out below with details of the main topic identified:
- Thursday 2 March 2017 – Commissioner of Transport; and
 - Wednesday 19 April 2017 (to be confirmed) – Cycling and walking

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 financial implications arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report:

Appendix 1. Record of visit to Dearman Technology Centre

Appendix 2. Record of visit to High Speed One facilities at St Pancras station

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers: None

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