

From Chair, London TravelWatch
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Ms Caroline Pidgeon AM MBE
Chair, London Assembly Transport Committee
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Dear Caroline

As you may recall, we received in the autumn the unwelcome news that our landlords at 169 Union Street, the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, were proposing to raise our rent by more than 30% (more than £42,000). This was a particular surprise to us because LFEPA are part of the GLA group.

We know this has been flagged up in the GLA Budget process, but we are getting anxious about the prospects for our budget in 2017-18. We managed to develop a standstill budget for 2017-18 as compared with 2016-17 by cutbacks in 'non-essential' spending (including research) and by freezing a vacant Policy Officer post. But this extra rent payment would place us in an almost impossible position. Our budget has already been cut to the minimum. In our view it would seriously compromise our work to represent London's transport users at a time when there are huge challenges across the system.

Any representations you can make on our behalf will be very welcome. Please let me know if you would like any further information.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Locke
Chair