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Title: GLA Oversight Committee – Congestion Charge – Police Officers

Executive Summary

At its Annual Meeting on 15 May 2020, the Assembly resolved:

That, in relation to urgent matters only, a general delegation of authority in respect of the Assembly's powers and functions (apart from those that cannot under the Greater London Authority Act 1999 be delegated) be given to the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee, in consultation with the Deputy Chairman of that Committee, party Group Leaders, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and any relevant committee Chair(s), from the close of the meeting until 31 August 2020.

Following consultation with the Deputy Chairman, party Group Leaders, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and the Chair of the Police and Crime Committee, Len Duvall AM agreed a letter to the Mayor requesting that the congestion charge be waived for police officers until the threat from Covid-19 is reduced to an acceptable level.

The letter was sent by the Chair of the Police and Crime Committee, Unmesh Desai AM.

Decision

That the Chair, in consultation with the Deputy Chairman, party Group Leaders, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and the Chair of the Police and Crime Committee, agree a letter from the Chair of the Police and Crime Committee to the Mayor requesting that the congestion charge be waived for police officers until the threat from Covid-19 is reduced to an acceptable level be published.

Assembly Member

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in the proposed decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for elected Members of the Authority.

The above request has my approval.

Signature



Date 10/06/2020

Printed Name

Len Duvall AM (Chair, GLA Oversight Committee)

Decision by an Assembly Member under Delegated Authority

Notes:

1. *The Lead Officer should prepare this form for signature by relevant Members of the Assembly to record any instance where the Member proposes to take action under a specific delegated authority. The purpose of the form is to record the advice received from officers, and the decision made.*
2. **The 'background' section (below) should be used to include an indication as to whether the information contained in / referred to in this Form should be considered as exempt under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR). If so, the specimen Annexe (attached below) should be used. If this form does deal with exempt information, you must submit both parts of this form for approval together.**

Background and proposed next steps:

At its Annual Meeting on 15 May 2020, the Assembly resolved:

That, in relation to urgent matters only, a general delegation of authority in respect of the Assembly's powers and functions (apart from those that cannot under the Greater London Authority Act 1999 be delegated) be given to the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee, in consultation with the Deputy Chairman of that Committee, party Group Leaders, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and any relevant committee Chair(s), from the close of the meeting until 31 August 2020.

Following consultation with the Deputy Chairman, party Group Leaders, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and the Chair of the Police and Crime Committee, Len Duvall AM agreed a letter to the Mayor requesting that the congestion charge be waived for police officers until the threat from Covid-19 is reduced to an acceptable level.

The letter was sent by the Chair of the Police and Crime Committee, Unmesh Desai AM.

Confirmation that appropriate delegated authority exists for this decision

Signed by Committee Services

Date 29/05/2020



Print Name: Davena Toyinbo

Tel: X 1285

**Financial implications
NOT REQUIRED**

Signed by Finance N/A Date

Print Name N/A Tel:

Legal implications

The Chair of the Oversight Committee has the power to make the decision set out in this report.

Signed by Legal



Date 28 May 2020

Print Name

Emma Strain, Monitoring Officer

Tel: X 4399

Additional information should be provided supported by background papers. These could include for example the business case, a project report or the results of procurement evaluation.

Supporting detail/List of Consultees: Susan Hall AM (Deputy Chairman), Caroline Russell AM, Peter Whittle AM, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, Unmesh Desai AM (Chair of Police and Crime Committee)

Public Access to Information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the FoIA, or the EIR and will be made available on the GLA Website within one working day of approval.

If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the decision (for example, to complete a procurement process), it can be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods should be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary. **Note:** this form (Part 1) will either be published within one working day after it has been approved or on the defer date.

Part 1 – Deferral

Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? No

Part 2 – Sensitive information

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under FoIA or EIR should be included in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a part 2 form - No

Lead Officer/Author

Signed

P. Goffe

Date: 29/05/20
(Via E-mail)

Print Name

Philippa Goffe

Tel: x. 4880

Job Title

Senior Policy AdvisorCountersigned by
Director

Date:
1/06/2020

Print Name

Ed Williams

Tel: x. 4399

Unmesh Desai AM
London Assembly Member for City and East
Chair of the Police and Crime Committee



City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London
SE1 2AA

Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London

(Via email)

28 May 2020

Dear Sadiq

Waiving congestion charge for police officers

I am writing on behalf of the Police and Crime Committee to ask you to intervene to waive the congestion charge for police officers until the threat from COVID-19 is reduced to an acceptable level.

The Metropolitan Police Service are continuing to provide a key service for the capital and the Committee feels very strongly that their key role should be recognised in the same way as for NHS staff. Police officers perform critical and challenging roles to keep Londoners safe. They also work shifts and often have little choice of what form of transport to use, as well as needing to maintain social distancing.

We have heard directly from police representatives who feel they are being treated unfairly by having the congestion charge applied which they feel does not recognise the importance of their role.

I would appreciate your urgent intervention to remove this charge from our hard-working police officers.

Yours sincerely,

Unmesh Desai AM
Chair of the Police and Crime Committee