

LONDONASSEMBLY

John Biggs AM, Chair of the Budget and Performance Committee

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Ref: 442

1 July 2015

Dear Leon

Budget and Performance Committee meeting, 2 September 2016 – New Routemaster

The Budget and Performance Committee will be using its meeting on Wednesday 2 September 2015 to examine TfL's decision to develop and purchase New Routemaster buses. This will build on the Committee's work from its Viability of Sponsored Transport Schemes investigation and continue its scrutiny of TfL's investment decision-making process. The Committee's work will focus on whether the New Routemaster provides value for money. We will look at how the programme evolved from a Mayoral election pledge in 2008 to TfL's decision to purchase and have a fleet of 800 buses in operation by April 2016.

The Committee meeting will take place from 10am at City Hall and I would like to invite representatives of TfL to attend the meeting. Committee officers will be in touch to make final arrangements for the meeting nearer the time. In the meantime, I would like to request some written information to inform our work. The specific information we are seeking is set out below. We also welcome receiving any additional relevant written information that TfL may wish to provide. We would be grateful if TfL could provide the information, wherever possible, by Friday 31 July. The information should be sent to William Roberts (email: william.roberts@london.gov.uk; telephone: 020 7983 4958). If it will not be possible for TfL to provide any of this information by then, please could you advise at the earliest opportunity so we can discuss alternative arrangements.

Yours sincerely



John Biggs AM
Chair of the Budget and Performance Committee

Appendix – Request for specific information on the New Routemaster

1. The Business case and documentation in support of each decision made by TfL to invest in the New Routemaster including:
 - the design and development of a new Routemaster bus;
 - the production of five prototype New Routemaster buses;
 - the purchase of 600 New Routemaster buses in 2012; and
 - the purchase of an additional 200 New Routemaster buses in 2014.
2. Gateway review (Project Close Out) documents for all completed New Routemaster programmes.
3. The review of the original business case, described in the *New Routemaster* Board paper on 5 November 2014, which compared the benefit cost ratio of NRMs to hybrids.
4. A breakdown of New Routemaster bus fleet by European emission compliance level, by age and by bus route as of April 2016.
5. The number of New Routemaster bus that will be One Person Operated from April 2016, when TfL has a fleet of 800 buses and the routes they will used on.
6. A breakdown of the capital and operational costs of purchasing and running a New Routemaster bus over its lifetime. Also please provide figures on an equivalent basis for leasing an Alexander Dennis E400H or a Volvo BH5 over the same period of time.
7. Bus emissions [NO₂ (g/km), NO_x (g/km) and PM₁₀ (g/km)] figures for the Euro VI compliant version of the New Routemaster following testing at Millbrook.
8. The results of studies carried out by TfL examining the relative fuel efficiency of the New Routemaster buses compared to other types of bus.
9. Temperature analysis TfL has carried out in response to criticism of the hot conditions on the New Routemaster buses. Please explain how the issue is being dealt with on buses already in operation and buses on order as well as a summary of the number of complaints TfL has received related to this issue in each of the last three year.